



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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21 December 1992

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Burundi

Minister Discusses Visit to Uganda, Results

EA2012192792 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale
du Burundi Radio in French 1800 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] The Burundi minister of external relations and cooperation, Mr. Libere Bararunyeretse, arrived in Bujumbura this afternoon from Uganda. A week after the Burundi head of state's visit to Uganda ended, Minister Bararunyeretse (?tells) Jean-Jacques Ntamagara about his extended mission in that country:

[Bararunyeretse] I extended my visit to Uganda beyond the return of the president of the Republic. In fact, I remained to finalize with my Ugandan colleague the instructions given us by the heads of state so that the excellent results of the visit could be expeditiously implemented.

[Ntamagara] It appears that Uganda is in debt to Burundi. How much is it and why has it not been repaid to date?

[Bararunyeretse] It is true that Uganda owes Burundi money for goods bought some years ago. In fact, the matter has been discussed between Burundi and Uganda, but the manner of resolving the problem has not yet been reached. One of the most significant results of His Excellency President Buyoya's talks during his visit to Uganda was significant progress towards resolving the question. We agreed on the part of the debt already known and which the Ugandan Government entirely recognizes. There is a sum of just over 164,000 U.S. dollars and another of just over 900,000,000 Burundi francs. The two governments are now in agreement on those sums. Uganda explicitly recognizes owing Burundi [words indistinct]. There is another part of the debt which is represented by receipts in respect of which Uganda has requested additional time for verification. We agreed that the Ugandan Government would transmit the results of the verification to the Burundi Government within 30 days. [passage omitted]

Aid Agreement Signed With French Fund

EA1912202592 Bujumbura Radio-Television Nationale
du Burundi Radio in French 1100 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Burundi and the French Development fund today signed a finance agreement. According to the agreement, the French Fund will provide Burundi with a grant for a structural adjustment program worth 20 million French francs or the equivalent of 850 million Burundi francs.

The grant lends support to the balance of payments and will facilitate the import of goods and services which are necessary for the economy and the population.

This is the first time that France has taken part in financing structural adjustment in Burundi.

Cameroon

European Human Rights Inquiry Team Welcomed

AB2012143192 Yaounde CRTV Radio Network in
French 1900 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] We begin with this official communique noting the European Parliament resolution on human rights in Cameroon:

The Government of Cameroon takes note of the European Parliament's resolution on human rights in Cameroon, which among other things recommends that the EEC send a committee of inquiry to Cameroon to obtain first-hand information on the sociopolitical situation in our country. The Government wishes that this committee arrive as soon as possible and promises to offer it all the cooperation necessary for accomplishing its mission.

However, the Government of Cameroon feels obliged to register its dissatisfaction with the European Parliament for having given credit in the same resolution to very serious allegations without checking the facts and without at least waiting for the findings of the inquiry it has itself suggested.

Incidentally, here is the reaction of Professor Augustin Kontchou Kouomengi, minister of state in charge of communication and government spokesman:

[Begin recording] I must state that the Cameroonian Government cannot but express its satisfaction at the fact that the European institutions decided to take a final stand on the situation in Cameroon only after an inquiry. This is an approach which seems to stem largely from the need to (?demonstrate) indispensable impartiality. As I told you at my last press briefing, this is a very positive outcome of the missions which the head of state directed to tour Europe and the American continent. So we are satisfied and, as stated in the communique, are looking forward to the earliest possible arrival of the committee of inquiry. We will give it all necessary cooperation.

However, in the same communique, the European Parliament seems to have taken sides on certain very serious allegations which, I think, we cannot accept because we know them to be completely false. I will cite two of them to illustrate the point. The European Parliament was allegedly informed that on 11 October, the day of presidential elections, some opposition activists who were conveying report sheets were systematically assassinated in Cameroon. I call the Cameroonian people to witness. As anyone knows, no one was assassinated on 11 October in Cameroon; at any rate, not because of the elections. A second very serious accusation: It is stated in the resolution that one (Ache Ngoua) died after being tortured by security forces in Bamenda. Now, if you read the last interview granted by Fru Ndi in the latest publication of SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC FRONT-ECHO—which is his party's newspaper—you see that

Fru Ndi himself explains the circumstance surrounding the death of this Cameroonian. This Cameroonian is reported to have sustained injuries in Fru Ndi's own compound during a physical fitness exercise. He was rushed to the hospital, but did not survive his injuries. He died. Now, this incident is being blamed on the Cameroonian Government using international organizations. So we think that those who are busy trying to manipulate foreign governments, or certain international organizations, in order to tarnish Cameroon's image are making a mistake. Cameroon has the means to protect its image and the government knows that it will come out victorious in this media tussle in which it is engaged with certain Cameroonians and certain interest groups outside our borders. [end recording]

Chad's Premier Visits After UDEAC Summit

AB1812151192 Yaounde CRTV Radio Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Dec 92

[Text] Visiting Chadian Prime Minister Mr. Joseph Yodoyman has said he is in Cameroon on his way back from Bata, Equatorial Guinea, to acquaint himself, among other things, with Cameroon's current political orientations. Mr. Yodoyman made the statement this afternoon in Yaounde shortly after being received by Cameroon's prime minister Simon Achidi Achu. Our permanent correspondent from the Prime Ministry, Mba Victor Klofffi, has the details.

[Begin Klofffi recording] Mr. Joseph Yodoyman, the Chadian prime minister, talking to reporters after his audience with his Cameroon counterpart, Mr. Simon Achidi Achu, said his stopover in Cameroon portrays the excellent relations existing between Cameroon and Chad. And these fruitful relations can help solve many problems in the two countries, and his present visit to this country offers one of those opportunities to discuss with Cameroonian authorities. The Chadian prime minister also said his stay in Cameroon will enable him to acquaint himself with the political orientations currently going on the country and he will draw lessons from these changes to apply in his country, because, according to him, Cameroon was a step ahead of Chad in the democratization process many African countries are now experiencing.

Talking about the sociopolitical situation in Chad, Prime Minister Joseph Yodoyman revealed that the national conference in his country is beginning on the 15th of January 1993 and this was decided on by the Chadian head of state, Mr. Idriss Deby. He said this would mark the turning point in the history of Chad because, it is as from that memorable date that Chadians' long standing problems may begin to see the light of the day. Chad, he said, has suffered a lot from wars and other calamities, and it is time such a carnage comes to an end. He also launched an appeal to all Cameroonians that they should do everything to avoid the misery that Chadians have plunged themselves in for quite a long time. Mr. Yodoyman told reporters that the major problem in

Chad now, with the apparent war over, is arrears owed workers and efforts are being made toward that direction to pay these workers.

Answering a question on the just-ended UDEAC [Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa][Summit] in Bata, Equatorial Guinea, the Chadian prime minister said no concrete resolution was arrived at, but the spirit of maturity prevailed throughout the summit, and the size of the projects contributed by each member country was reduced taking into cognizance the prevailing difficult economic situation the countries of the subregion are now going through. The prime minister promised he would be coming to Cameroon when the opportunity offers itself and whenever he is in Cameroon, he feels at home, revealing that he was born in Cameroon, precisely in Garoua and he has never on any incident doubted the warm welcome reserved for him in Cameroon. [end recording]

Chad's Abbas Koty Reportedly Arrested in Yaounde

AB2012133092 Paris Radio France International in French 0630 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] Several concurring sources in Chad announce the arrest of Abbas Koty, former comrade in arms of President Deby and the then minister of defense and chief of staff. Abbas Koty is also the brain behind last June's abortive coup. He had fled to Cameroon where he was said to have been arrested a few days ago, right after the Chadian prime minister's visit to Yaounde. It will now be a question of extraditing Mr. Abbas Koty to somewhere other than Chad.

Opposition Leader on Aftermath of Elections

AB1912190992 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Excerpt] The Cameroonian opposition is trying to reorganize after the presidential elections and President Biya's victory. It became divided after the elections. A Congress for Democracy in Cameroon was held in Paris yesterday. Jerome Bastion asked the international secretary for the Union for Change, Dominic Djeukam Tchameni, why the opposition has weakened:

[Begin recording] [Tchameni] Thirty years of dictatorship do not promote the spirit of organization. Most of the current organizations on the Cameroonian political scene are relatively young. There was a phenomenon of automatic apprenticeship and I think we are now approaching the end of that process.

[Bastion] Was Paul Biya's reelection two months ago the necessary electrical shock?

[Tchameni] It made us realize that our actions should be less spectacular and more political and diplomatic. We should stress the spirit of association and the creation of free trade unions. An appeal was made to the people to understand that the fight for democracy can only be

conducted efficiently within various organizations, that is to say political parties, trade unions, or associations.

[Bastion] Are the Cameroonian people not demobilized?

[Tchameni] No, the people are in a state of shock and the opposition is materially incapable of meeting because most of the leaders are either under house arrest or living underground. [end recording] [passage omitted]

UPC Denounces Government Moves Against SDF

AB2012192392 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] The Union for Change [UPC] has denounced the government's campaign against the opposition. According to the UPC leader, the secret services have printed counterfeit bank notes bearing the effigy of John Fru Ndi, the Social Democratic Front [SDF] leader. The UPC has denounced an attempt by President Biya's regime to destabilize the SDF.

Group Calls For Boycott of French Products

AB1812184292 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Leaflets from a group known as the Union of Forces of Change have called for a boycott of French products. The group asserts that France supports President Biya and that it must choose between him and the Cameroonian people.

Furthermore, four ambassadors, those of Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, and the United States have asked for permission to visit Bamenda. Three of them were turned down. Only the U.S. ambassador has been authorized to visit this area, which is still under a curfew.

Congo

Negotiations on Forming Government Said Blocked

AB1712140692 Paris AFP in French 1035 GMT 17 Dec 92

[Text] Brazzaville, 17 Dec (AFP)—Mr. Ange Edouard Pongui, coordinator of the National Alliance for Democracy, a coalition of about 40 political parties close to Congolese President Pascal Lissouba, accused the opposition parties of blocking negotiations toward the formation of a national union government, in Brazzaville today. In an interview with AFP, Mr. Pongui said the opposition coalition, formed by the Congolese Labor Party (former single ruling party) and the Union for Democratic Renewal (comprising seven parties), had demanded that the prime minister, Mr. Claude Antoine Dacosta, associate them with "the reorganization of the government." Mr. Pongui added that the opposition coalition was against the idea of attributing key posts like the Ministries of Defense, Foreign Affairs, Interior, and Finance to pro-Lissouba officials.

"This demand is unjustified, because political parties do not have the right to impose the way to form a government on the prime minister," Mr. Pongui said, adding that the formation of the government "is a constitutional task for the head of government."

The opposition coalition and member parties of the propresidential group had reached an agreement on 3 December for the formation of a national union government. Under the agreement, the opposition would get 60 percent of the ministerial portfolios while the presidential group would get 40 percent.

According to Mr. Pongui, the presidential group was received by the prime minister on 16 December. During the audience, the group asked the prime minister to respect the quotas allocated to the two political coalitions within the new government.

"We do not have any proposals to make to the prime minister because we believe it is the prime minister's job to form the government," Mr. Pongui restated, stressing that the opposition "believes it can gain the upper hand by blocking negotiations on the formation of the government."

On 11 December, Mr. Dacosta received both the opposition coalition and the propresidential group, in the presence of the Congolese Armed Forces High Command, to discuss means of restarting negotiations, informed sources reported. This meeting did not succeed, however, as the propresidential group leader, General Joachim Yhombi-Opango, asserted that the prime minister did "not need to meet with the parties in order to form his government," the same sources further stated.

The blocking of the current negotiations might delay the upcoming March elections, according to reliable sources. A national commission, charged with organizing and supervising the March elections, was set up on 3 December. The opposition has been appointed to chair this commission.

Split in Union Confederation, Statement Issued

AB1812153292 Brazzaville Radio Nationale Congolaise Network in French 1830 GMT 16 Dec 92

[Text] The Executive Confederal Commission [COCONEX] of the Congolese Trade Union Confederation [CSC] has been convened to a meeting starting at 1000 at Mpila on 17 December. This was one of the major decisions made on 16 December at the extraordinary general assembly of CSC officials chaired by Louis Gondou, CSC second in command, at the Permanent Secretariat of this group of affiliated trade unions. Beau Blaise Kwayewe has the details:

[Kwayewe] It was in the particularly heated atmosphere, which characterizes trade union circles at this moment that this general assembly was held. In attendance were grassroots trade unions of firms and their subsections,

sections, and federations of professional groups. It is worth noting that union leaders of the above bodies turned up in their numbers.

The purpose of the meeting was to consider the persistent crisis within the CSC Permanent Secretariat, including the resignation of the Permanent Secretariat in the face of the deterioration of workers' condition in various firms. In this regard, Louis Gondou, CSC second in command, referred to the dramatic case of the unfortunate selling off of the Congolese Commercial Bank, the abandonment of the Ogooue Mining Company workers to their sad plight, the reduction in workers' purchasing power, and the failure to implement the protocol agreement on the upward revision of the industrial workers' salary scale. Mr. Gandou also stressed that their move was not political. After heated debates, the trade union officials outlined their demands in a statement. Here is an excerpt:

[Begin unidentified official recording] The General Assembly demands that an extraordinary session of COCONEX be held on 17 December; warns the Permanent Secretariat against any postponement of the said meeting; calls on the government to pay at least three months of salary arrears before 31 December to enable workers to celebrate the end of year festivities in a decent manner.

It also demands the effective participation of all COCONEX members present in Brazzaville in the extraordinary session. All absent comrades will be considered to have resigned their posts and will be punished by their respective grass roots sections. COCONEX members will be responsible for the immediate defusion of the present situation in order to fulfill the wishes of the General Assembly which are: Convening a session of the Confederal Council; convening the fourth extraordinary congress. The General Assembly warns troublemakers of all kinds who might be tempted to harass trade union leaders in the performance of their noble and historic duty to workers. [end recording]

In view of the crisis prevailing within the trade union leadership, Jean-Michel Bokamba-Yangouma, CSC general secretary, broke his silence this afternoon with the following clarification:

[Begin Bokamba-Yangouma recording] Activists of the 14 CSC-member trade union federations: For the past few days, a climate of unrest and excitement has reigned within our organization. This, definitely reflects a deep malaise which has been lingering within the leadership organs since the end of the sovereign national conference in spite of the efforts made by COCONEX to restore an atmosphere of concord, unity, and confidence which alone will enable us to carry out any rational trade union struggle. How can one deny the existence of this malaise, when one knows that for many months now some permanent secretaries no longer go to their offices. The federations, which were granted autonomy after the

eighth congress, still find it difficult to assume their responsibilities and continue to expect everything from the confederation.

Many federations, charged with carrying out a census of their members following the formation of parallel trade unions in their sectors of activity, have never submitted their conclusions to enable our organization to pursue its policy. The mandates of several leadership organs expired long ago and such organs need to be restructured. In almost all the leadership organs of the federations, many executives have left, and it is indispensable to replace them.

As can be seen, the CSC is facing real problems today in its functioning. However, since our confederation is governed by regulations codified in statutes by which all trade union executives should abide, all these problems—despite the exaggerated media coverage—can only be solved in a frank, free, and democratic debate within our organization's competent organs, namely COCONEX, the Confederal Council, and the Congress.

It is therefore clear that neither street demonstrations nor unguarded statements will bring about concrete solutions to the functioning problems confronting the CSC and its federations, neither will they improve the workers' living conditions. I therefore, call on all trade union leaders to remain calm and urge them to be patient. All the problems confronting our organization will be frankly and plainly discussed at the COCONEX extraordinary session which I convene on 22 December. This one-week period, which might appear long for some people, seems necessary for us to give our comrades in the interior the time and opportunity to participate in this meeting for which the contribution of all is indispensable. [end recording]

Equatorial Guinea

President Says UDEAC Summit Successful

AB1812142092 Paris AFP in French 1238 GMT 17 Dec 92

[Text] Bata, 17 Dec (AFP)—Equatorial Guinean President Teodoro Obiang Nguema Mbasogo yesterday expressed the view that the 28th summit of the Customs and Economic Union of Central Africa [UDEAC], which he has just chaired here, was a success for the organization.

In an interview he gave to AFP, the head of state expressed the belief that the crisis experienced by the all the member states (Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, and Chad) had put the organization in a difficult situation, due to the lack of funds, and that thanks to assistance from France, its restructuring was on the point of being completed.

The Equatorial Guinean president, who is also the chairman of the UDEAC Council of Heads of State, was

of the opinion that customs and excise reform was not possible without a "detailed study." He stated that the finance ministers' decision to fix the deadline for implementing a common Central African market at 1 January 1993 was not taken unanimously.

"Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Gabon had expressed their reservations about this," he added. The final communique of this summit—which was held on 14 and 15 December in the presence of Presidents Omar Bongo of Gabon and Pascal Lissouba of Congo, as well as the Central African and Chadian prime ministers—asked for an "in-depth analysis" and "for each state, to take steps to achieve macroeconomic balances."

Asked about the democratic trend in his country, where multipartyism was instituted a year ago, President Obiang, who is still the chairman of the former single party, answered that his government had given proof of "goodwill."

"The population had not wanted multipartyism due to past experiences. The government has done everything to give the country a modern system," he stated. President Obiang pointed out that the six opposition parties had been recognized officially, adding that it is "now up to the opposition to work actively within the population." He however felt that the opposition did not have "valid people to talk seriously with the government."

Concerning opposition movements established abroad, President Obiang explained that he sometimes had "contacts" with them, but that those who want to work for Equatorial Guinea "must return home." According to him, "the majority of opposition groups based in Spain are already in the country." Those still outside cannot do any "realistic politics," he said.

Looting at Central Market; Arrests Reported

AB1812220492 Paris AFP in French 0947 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Libreville, 18 Dec (AFP)—About 100 people, including high school students, looted at the central market in Malabo, the capital of Equatorial Guinea, the country's radio, monitored in Libreville, reported today.

The radio report said that many people were arrested by the police, but there were no casualties. The arrested people include members of opposition political parties.

Repression of Opposition, Students Reported

AB2012173992 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] It has been a real tribulation for opponents in Equatorial Guinea. According to reliable sources, arrests, police brutality, persecution, and intimidation are the daily fate of members of the opposition, despite the official restoration of multipartyism in Equatorial Guinea at the beginning of the year. Here is Patrick Bidan:

[Begin recording] It is certainly not a refusal of the multipartyism that President Obiang Nguema Mbasogo wants nor is it the people who are proving contrary. According to several anonymous Westerners living in Bata, the second largest city, many arbitrary arrests are still being made regularly despite the apparent calm. The few opposition offices opened throughout the year have all been closed down. For these reasons, Spain, the former colonial power, has reportedly reduced its cooperation after having tried last May to mediate under the auspices of Adolfo Suarez, the former head of government. Madrid is now only maintaining technical assistants in the health and teaching fields. France is the Western country with which Equatorial Guinea maintains the most cooperation.

Despite the repressions, a certain unrest can still be felt. A demonstration took place in Malabo recently and several people were arrested. A few weeks ago, high school pupils organized a march in the streets of Bata and many of them were arrested. Several other high school pupils were arrested while trying to leave the city after protesting the resignation of a clergyman who was also their Spanish teacher. According to unconfirmed sources, the teacher was threatened by an armed policeman. The students asked to see the governor, who asked them to return to their school for discussions. He then sent the Army to the high school. A pupil was killed and several others were wounded. Since then, classes have reopened, but several teachers and students remain absent. [end recording]

Zaire

Demonstrations Held in Kinshasa, Casualties

LD1812180792 Brussels La Une Radio Network in French 1700 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Blood was spilt in Kinshasa today. The town was full of road blocks and the police fired repeatedly. According to reliable witnesses there are a dozen casualties.

The Zaire capital has been completely paralyzed since early this morning. Shops and markets were closed, there was no public transport, and there were road blocks everywhere. The soldiers, the Civil Guard, or the special presidential division could not move normally at any moment in the town. There were no demonstrators manning the barricades, but as soon as the security forces dismantled a road block the inhabitants hastily built new ones. The actions of the population remained peaceful throughout.

According to sources close to the Zaire presidency, this morning's demonstrations did not last long and the disturbances merely ended with a few arrests. The incidents were supposed to be the work of idle youths mobilized by pamphlets issued by the Sacred Union.

The inhabitants of Kinshasa were intent on demonstrating as planned earlier to demand the departure of President Mobutu, but the Christians Committee decided to suspend this day of action to enable the installation of the High Council of the Republic, the transitional parliament. The road blocks were lifted about lunchtime, and passengers arriving at Ndjili

airport managed to get into town after being kept at the airport most of the morning. [Paris AFP in English at 0105 GMT on 19 December reports: "Two people were killed Friday in a clash between anti-government demonstrators and police in Kinshasa, and another was killed by protestors, Kinshasa Governor Mungul Diaka said. Eight people were wounded, he said."]

Djibouti

Reportage on 18 Dec General Election

Observers, Foreign Minister Meet

EA1712144792 Djibouti Radio Djibouti in Somali 1700 GMT 16 Dec 92

[Text] Foreign election observers who will monitor the 18 December general election held a meeting this morning with the minister of foreign affairs and cooperation. The delegation of foreign election observers - which has been invited by the government to see that the election is held in a just, free, and fair manner - includes 34 individuals. Four are from the United Nations, one is from the Arab League, three are from the OAU, 11 are from ACCT [Association de Cooperation Culturel et Technique], 11 are from France, one is from Italy, and three are from the U.S. Government.

The meeting with the observers and the minister was also attended by the director general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and representatives from the Ministry of Interior. The delegation is due to hold another meeting tomorrow with the constitutional committee.

Early Results: PRP Victory

AB1912181092 Paris AFP in English 1016 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Djibouti, Dec 19 (AFP)—Early results from legislative elections in Djibouti Friday [18 December] point to a victory for the People's Rally for Progress (RPP) party of President Hassan Gouled Aptidon, figures from the Interior Ministry showed.

With votes counted at 30 polling stations the RPP appeared likely to capture all 65 seats in the new parliament.

Of 18,487 votes cast at the 30 stations, the RPP had won 12,645, with the Party of Democratic Renewal (PDR) under former Health Minister Mohamed Djama Elabe taking 5,602.

The PDR appeared to have been badly hurt by abstentions, which came in response to an appeal for an election boycott from a United Front coalition of unrecognized parties.

Opposition Rejects Results

EA1912200992 Djibouti Radio Djibouti in Somali 1700 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] The Popular Rally for Progress Party, RPP, has won the 65 parliamentary seats contested in yesterday's elections with the Party for Reviving Democracy, PRD.

The results released this morning by the Ministry of Interior show that the ruling party, RPP, has won in all

the 500 seats [as heard, parliamentary and local government] in the country. The RPP party obtained 74 percent of the votes cast in the elections while the opposition PRD received 25 percent of the votes but no seats in the new parliament.

In the elections, which were contested according to the post system [not further identified], it appeared that most people did not vote. More than 51 percent of the registered voters in the five regions of the country did not cast their ballots.

The minister of interior, Ahmed Boulaleh Barre, has said that he is satisfied with the good way in which the elections took place. We shall broadcast the minister's remarks after the news.

Ali Mohamed Humad, the minister of youth and sports, and the government spokesman, has said that he is happy with the RPP victory in the parliamentary elections. Ali Mohamed thanked the people of Obock and Tadjoura for the good way in which the elections took place at this difficult time.

Mohamed Djama Elabe, the leader of the PRD, has rejected the election results, saying that there were many anomalies, including those involving voting cards and the indelible ink used to mark the thumbs of voters. We shall broadcast Mr. Mohamed Djama Elabe's remarks after the news.

Most of the international observers who monitored yesterday's elections said they had taken place normally.

Opposition: Election 'Rigged'

EA1912215192 Djibouti Radio Djibouti in Somali 1700 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Statement by Mohamed Djama Elabe, leader of the Party for Reviving Democracy [PRD], on 19 December, place not given—recorded]

[Text] If there is a victory, it is for the PRD and no one else. I say this because rigging is no victory. We went to vote to [word indistinct] democracy. But we saw that the ruling Popular Rally for Progress Party [RPP] still has the same mind—rig and proceed, do it and continue. This has convinced us never to accept the results announced unless they are rechecked. We will not accept them unless the events in Djibouti are checked.

We call on our people to rally at Jamal Abd al-Nasir tomorrow. We call on the international community to check our rights for us, to regain our rights and dignity, and to discuss them with whoever opposes this.

I have the proof of the voting card here. Look at it. These are the papers which the people used.

Can this be accepted and be used to deny the people's rights? Some [cards] have ink, some have no seal or signature. Thousands of such papers were made, (?forged). They came out in the afternoon when they

were being distributed. Look at these two papers. The first one is the genuine one, as used by the PRD, and here is the RPP one in the streets. [Words indistinct] promised to make a hole in the card and this was not done. This was all done for the purpose of rigging. We can never accept this. We only want [word indistinct]. Let it be confirmed. If it is true, we will accept it, because we are democratic.

Tear Gas Used at Rally

AB2012175192 Paris AFP in English 1727 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] Djibouti, Dec 20 (AFP)—Djibouti police used tear gas to break up a rally here Sunday [20 December] of the opposition Democratic Renewal Party (DRP) [name as received], hurting more than a dozen people and arresting a number of party militants.

People were gathering for the rally outside the movement's headquarters in Nasser Avenue on Sunday afternoon when police moved in.

Three women overcome by the effects of tear gas, one of them 12 weeks pregnant, were taken to Peltier Hospital for treatment, sources said. Around a dozen other women were also treated in hospital for wounds caused by fragments of exploding tear gas canisters, sources said.

Interior Minister Ahmed Boulaleh Barre had banned Sunday's meeting, warning on state radio that DRP leader Mohamed Djama Elabe would be held responsible for any violence and threatened to haul him before the courts in the event of trouble.

It was not immediately clear how many people had been detained.

Ethiopia

President Meets Ali Mahdi 19 Dec

EA2012124092 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 0500 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Excerpt] On 19 December, President Meles Zenawi held talks with General [as heard] Ali Mahdi Mohamed, one of the opposition leaders in Somalia, with whom he discussed the horrific events in Somalia following the overthrow of Siad Barre. The two also discussed ways and means of ending the conflict between the opposition groups that has killed many Somalis, as well as creating conditions conducive to the safe delivery of humanitarian aid to the needy people. [passage omitted]

IMF Director Arrives for 3-Day Visit

EA2012210092 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] A delegation led by Mr. Michel Camdessus, director of the IMF, arrived in Addis Ababa this morning for working visit to Ethiopia. During its three-day visit, the eight-member delegation will closely assess political and

economic activities in the context of the new changes taking place in our country. The delegation is also expected to hold talks with senior government officials. Mr. Alemayehu Dhaba, the minister of finance, met the delegation at Bole international airport [in Addis Ababa].

Aid Commission Appeals for 1993 Food Assistance

EA1812202292 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] The Relief and Rehabilitation Commission [RRC] today appealed to donor organizations and the international community at large for 740,000 metric tonnes of food aid required to feed nearly 5,000,000 needy Ethiopians in 1993.

The appeal was made by Mr. Simon Mechale, commissioner of the RRC at a donors' conference attended by commissioners, representatives of non-governmental organizations and U.N. Agencies held here in Addis Ababa. Mr. Simon pointed out that the 1993 RRC appeal includes assistance required to develop the food security reserve which is now being rendered as an autonomous institution. Mr. Simon said because the food security reserve will function as a means of allowing the RRC to address to contingency need, its development is one of the top priorities of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia.

Relief Supplies Not Reaching Intended Recipients

EA1812171692 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 17 Dec 92

[Excerpt] It has been reported that relief supplies designated for distribution by the relief and rehabilitation commission [RRC] branch office in Dolo Odo town [southeastern Ethiopia, bordering Somalia] and meant for famine stricken compatriots and people displaced from Somalia are not being properly distributed to the intended recipients. Although the relief supplies arrive in the area in a good fashion, better than at any other time, the intended recipients never receive them, it is alleged. It has become commonplace to see the Mercedes trucks and private vehicles that bring the relief food into Dolo Odo retransport the relief food meant for the victims to the hinterland. Teferi Legese has details:

[Begin Teferi recording] Not a small number of people displaced from war torn Somalia, Ethiopian returnees from Somalia and Ethiopians displaced due to drought and famine are sheltered in the southeastern part of our country, in Dolo Oda district. The efforts and activities of the RRC in collaboration with other international organizations in distributing food to famine victims is greatly appreciated.

Despite these efforts, and although the relief food is being unloaded in warehouses everyday, the intended recipients never receive them. During our visit there we talked with many of the intended recipients in Bare, (Afked), Dolo Bay, and Dolo Odo, who said that they had not received the relief supplies. In fact they said that they are at times forced to pay bribes for the relief food which was brought for them. For his part, the RRC representative for the area says that the relief food is given monthly to representatives of the recipients and that these are cheap accusations.

According to the intended recipients, the RRC distribution involves working with some conniving local people and distributing the food to so-called representatives of the people who are not elected by the recipients but who share the proceeds of the sale of the relief food. This has been facilitated because the food is being transported by private vehicles and not relief vehicles. This has allowed unscrupulous people to sell the food in front of the intended recipients without any shame. They also allege that at times a down payment is received from traders even before the relief food has left the warehouse. [passage omitted]. [end recording]

Kenya

Moi Meets Leader of Commonwealth Observer Group

EA1812174592 Nairobi KNA in English 1100 GMT
18 Dec 92

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 18 Dec (KNA)—His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today at State House Nakuru held discussions with the Commonwealth Observer Group. The group which arrived in the country on Wednesday [16 December] is led by Mr Justice Telford Georges.

The president welcomed the team into the country and said that the 29th December elections were not the first multi-party elections in the country. He said Kenyans had participated in multi-party elections in 1963 soon after independence. He told the observers that societies differ and each society should be treated in accordance with its norms.

Mr Justice Georges thanked the president for the warm reception and assured him that the team was happy with the way electioneering was going on. He said the team was already moving around the country freely monitoring the pre-election campaign. [passage omitted]

Observer Group Cited on Electoral Process

EA2012162592 Nairobi KNA in English 1116 GMT 20
Dec 92

[Text] Nairobi 20 Dec (KNA)—The Commonwealth Observer Group [COG] has issued the following statement:

The COG has expressed strong concern at the reports it has been receiving of numerous cases of violence and

"land-clashes" which have resulted in the death of hundreds of people, the destruction of houses and other property and are now refugees in their own country [sentence as received].

Speaking today on behalf of the group, the chairman, Mr. Justice Telford Georges said: "We appeal to Kenyans, particularly leaders and influential party officials, to call on their supporters to do everything possible to reduce this violence which is marring this historic election. We also urge the law enforcement authorities to take more effective action to put an end to this situation."

The group has also received complaints from the opposition parties about the denial of access [to] the media. The difficulties which opposition parties are facing in getting access to the publicly-owned media have been brought to the attention of the group. Complaints have been made by independent groups which have been monitoring election coverage by the electronic media in particular that there has been a systematic imbalance in the coverage of the election campaign.

Mr. Georges said: "We would wish to see greater exposure given in the public media to the activities of the opposition parties. The situation has improved somewhat, but there is still a noticeable imbalance in the reporting of the election, particularly by radio and television. The result of this imbalance is that ordinary voters are being denied the opportunity to be informed about the programmes and policies of all political parties. This is a serious matter in a multi-party election, where voters expect to be given enough information about the contending parties to enable them to choose their leaders. We urge the government to take immediate steps to allow all parties equitable access to radio and television."

Before the full group arrived on Wednesday, 16 December, a statement was issued by its advance team, which warned that irregularities in the nomination process had "severely compromised" the election.

During the past few days, the observers have been getting first-hand information from political leaders, candidates and witnesses about what went wrong on nomination day. In several meetings with Justice Zaccheus Chesoni, chairman of the Electoral Commission, the group has discussed the allegations which have been made and sought explanations. He has told them that 72 complaints at parliamentary and civic level came before the Commission. Of these, nine have been allowed and six are going to the High Court. Twenty-four are being investigated by the police, and in another 13 cases the Commission has upheld the decisions of returning officers. The other 10 cases were found to be complaints internal to political parties. The group was informed that further action would have [to] be initiated by election petitions.

During the weekend the COG divided into 17 teams and left Nairobi for the eight regions, where they will be stationed until after polling day. The chairman is remaining in the Nairobi area. The group has now completed most of its meetings with government and election officials, and will representatives of political parties and monitoring organisations.

Opposition Seeks Electoral Delay in Eldoret

EA2012142892 Nairobi KTN Television in English 1800 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Parliamentary opposition candidates in areas where clashes occurred recently in Eldoret have appealed to the Electoral Commission to postpone general elections in the affected areas.

Addressing the press after meeting the commission's chairman, Justice Chesoni, in his office, the candidates led by DP [Democratic Party] Eldoret South nominee Charles Murgor said most of the displaced families were scattered all over and as a result they would not be able to take part in the voting.

[Begin Murgor recording] The spirit of the electorate to participate in the election is dashed and destroyed. Unless and until law and order is restored in those affected areas and people return back to their homes there can never be anything like holding free and fair elections. We are therefore calling upon the Electoral Commission to postpone elections in these affected constituencies, namely Eldoret East, Eldoret South, Eldoret North, and Kerio South. [end recording]

Opposition Goes to Court To Block Moi Candidacy

EA1812220092 Nairobi KTN Television in English 1800 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Wanguhu Ng'Ang'a, a FORD [Forum for the Restoration of Democracy]-Asili parliamentary candidate in Westlands, Nairobi, today started fresh proceedings in the high court aimed at preventing President Moi from contesting the presidency later this month.

Ng'ang'a through his lawyer, G.B.M. Kariuki, claimed in a motion filed in the high court that section nine, sub-section two of the Constitution disqualified President Moi from holding office as president in this country since he has already served two terms of five years as stipulated by the law. The suit names the president as the first respondent and the electoral commission the second. A similar suit filed by two voters was last week dismissed by the high court.

Yesterday [17 December] a man, Patrick Chege Njuguna, who said he had been nominated by FORD-Asili to contest Baringo central parliamentary seat, successfully restrained the electoral commission from treating President Moi's nomination as sole candidate for Baringo central as final. Njuguna said he was also interested in the seat.

Report on Nomination Problems

EA1712212692 Nairobi KTN Television in English 1600 GMT 17 Dec 92

[Text] The Electoral Commission has forwarded seven civic and 17 parliamentary appeal cases to the office of the attorney general to act on them. Releasing the findings of the special nominations' complaints committee, the commission Chairman Justice Chesoni said the appeals did not fall within their jurisdiction but to the office of the attorney general.

He added that the five-man committee had accepted there were anomalies in several civic and parliamentary areas where candidates had been prevented from presenting their papers. This includes Turkana South where a Democratic Party candidate Eliud Long'acha was unable to present his papers after a policeman had allegedly snatched his briefcase. Other constituencies where the commission has directed that parliamentary candidates be allowed to present their papers are Mumias, Amogoro, and Kangundo.

[At 1800 GMT, KTN adds: "The High Court in Nairobi today temporarily restrained the Electoral Commission from publishing in the official gazette notice the nomination of seven Kenya African National Union candidates, including Baringo Central. The orders were issued by different judges following applications filed by parliamentary aspirants from the opposition.

["In relation to Baringo Central, where President Moi was nominated, Justice Norbury Dugdale granted the order following an application lodged by Patrick Chege Njuguna. His lawyer, Gibson Kamau Kuria, told the court that the matter was urgent because if the status quo is not maintained his client's rights would be violated. The application will be heard on Monday [21 December].

["Elsewhere, another judge, Justice (G. Pall) ordered the Electoral Commission from treating the nomination of Samia constituency in Busia as final until the suit filed by Michael (Namdiero) is determined. The other affected constituencies are Baringo North, Kerio Central, Baringo East, Kerio East, and Kerio West. All applications come for hearing next week."]

Commission Asks Candidates To Meet Public

EA2012184292 Nairobi KTN Television in English 1000 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] The Electoral Commission has requested all parliamentary candidates in areas affected by clashes in Uasin Gishu to hold a joint public rally with their electorate to solve the problem. Electoral Commission Chairman Justice Chesoni said at his press briefing this morning that preaching for peace in the areas was a national issue:

[Begin Chesoni recording] We would like to see the candidates hold this joint meeting to condemn violence,

and on our part, as a Commission, we are taking up the matter with the security arm of the Kenya Government. We are discussing the matter with the attorney general with a view to exploring an amicable and good solution that will enable the voters to freely have access to the areas where they are registered to go and vote without fearing that there will be any attacks from any corner whatsoever or any threats. We appeal to members of the public who may have useful information about people who might be masterminding these clashes, and those also who even write threatening letters to other citizens who are peacefully enjoying their lives whether they are requesting them to move by a certain date or not, to report, to give detailed information to the authorities. [sentence as heard] [end recording]

'Few Civil Servants' Blamed for Irregularities

EA1712175292 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 0400 GMT 17 Dec 92

[Text] A few civil servants and not the government are to blame for engaging in activities not conducive to a free and fair election, the chairman of the Electoral Commission, Justice Zaccheus Chesoni, said yesterday. He said it was not in order for a handful of administrators to mar the reputation of the government through last-minute cancellation of licenses for meetings unless such meetings were considered a security risk to the state.

Justice Chesoni was briefing the press at the commission's headquarters yesterday. He said with barely 13 days to go before the general election, politicians should be allowed to sell themselves to voters.

Justice Chesoni maintained that the commission was working in liaison with the government and the office of the attorney general to ensure peaceful, free, and fair general election. He further disclosed that the compilation of the list of parliamentary candidates was in process and the names will be publicized soon after the complete [as heard] commission gives its findings.

Ethiopian Refugees Voluntarily Return Home

EA1812175092 Nairobi KTN Television in English 1000 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] The first group of 500 Ethiopian refugees in Kenya voluntarily returned to their homes in southern Ethiopia this morning. UNHCR officials accompanied the convoy of 15 trucks at the start of the repatriation program for some 80,000 Ethiopian refugees in Kenya. About 50,000 of them have registered to return with the UNHCR [United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees]

The repatriation program from Walda and Banissa camps in northern Kenya is expected to be completed in two months at the cost of 2,000,000 dollars. Daily convoys of about 500 people will be departing from the camps. The number of returnees will be increased to 1,000 per day later.

The first group of returnees traveled 350 km from Walda to their home in El Leh in southern Ethiopia. They were provided with one month's supply of cereals and cooking oil. The Ethiopian refugees fleeing ethnic clashes and drought arrived in Kenya in early 1992.

The repatriation followed a peace agreement last month among the different Oromo sub-clans mediated by UNHCR. There are 425,000 refugees in 16 camps in Kenya. About 300,000 come from Somalia, 20,000 from Sudan, and the rest from Ethiopia. Over 90 percent of the refugees arrived in the last 18 months.

Moi Warns Against 'Irresponsible Utterances'

EA1912203992 Nairobi KTN Television in English 1600 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] President Daniel arap Moi today advised leaders against making irresponsible utterances and reminded them that whatever they say or did had direct effect on wananchi [citizens]. He noted that inflammatory sentiments expressed by leaders cause despondency and so there was need to weigh their words. He warned leaders against engaging in activities that jeopardize the lives of the people.

The president further noted that recently some leaders in the opposition had threatened civil war if their parties failed to win the forthcoming general elections. Noting that leadership is not sought through violence, President Moi told such opposition figures to recognize that it was the electorate that will ultimately decide who shall lead them. He was addressing thousands of wananchi during a public rally in Kisumu Moi stadium.

President Says Country Safe for Tourists

EA1812214392 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today told visitors from abroad to visit any part of the country for themselves and that Kenya was peaceful contrary to negative press reports appearing in international media. President Moi, however, told such visitors to take some time to learn about African social norms which govern the respective societies. [passage omitted]

President Moi was addressing a mammoth rally in Narok town. Stressing that peace had been Kenya's hallmark since independence, President Moi said credit goes to the ruling party, KANU [Kenya African National Union], which has painstakingly ensured there was stability in all those years. President Moi said there was need to continue promoting that peace and stability, more so under the present multiparty political era. [passage omitted]

The president said even as the leaders of the various political parties go to wananchi [citizens], they should preach the message of peace. He said there was need for parties to tell wananchi what they have done to improve the lives of Kenyans, noting that, as for KANU, the party

rightly takes credit for ensuring a high rate of development since independence. President Moi said even in the current KANU manifesto, the party places great emphasis on programs that will better the lives of Kenyans. He said the creation of more employment opportunities was a priority in the next KANU government. He therefore urged wananchi to support KANU and to vote in large numbers in the coming general election to give the party a mandate to continue leading the country. President Moi said KANU's track record was well known and assured Kenyans that the next KANU government would strive more to make this country a shining example in the continent. [passage omitted]

Somalia

Aidid, Ali Mahdi To Withdraw Forces 19 Dec

EA1812163992 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1400 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, the president of the Somali Republic, and General Mohamed Farah Aidid, met again today at the American Embassy in Mogadishu. At their meeting, the president and General Aidid discussed matters pertaining to the implementation of the seven points passed recently by them.

Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, the president of the Somali Republic, said it was necessary to give precedence to the general interests of the nation and to once and for all embark on actual work for the nation. He added that it was important for all those who had gone through hardships to forget them because there was no [words indistinct].

For his part, General Mohamed Farah Aidid said it was essential to implement all the points endorsed by the two sides, adding that in order to make this possible, the two factional leaders should [word indistinct] with mutual confidence.

After their meeting the two sides reached a consensus on the following points:

1. In order to implement the fourth point contained in the recent agreement signed by Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, the president of the Somali Republic, and General Aidid, the two sides agreed that their respective forces and equipment should be removed from Mogadishu city and that this work should be completed by 19 December.
2. A joint military committee, assisted by U.S. troops, has been charged with implementing this.
3. The two sides agreed that a joint military committee should meet at the American Embassy tomorrow morning at 0900.
4. A joint military committee is required to inspect the designated places for the (?forces) to be taken to.

SNA Forces Urged To Comply

EA1812210092 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali 1700 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Excerpts] Mr. Mohamed Farah Aidid, the chairman of the Somali National Alliance [SNA] and the United Somali Congress [USC], and Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed met today at the U.S. Embassy in Mogadishu for the second time. Present was Robert Oakley, the U.S. Ambassador to Somalia. [passage omitted].

It is also reported that an SNA army spokesman has called on and informed SNA forces in Mogadishu equipped with technicals and small arms to return to their former barracks where preparations for them to start work and working tools would be made.

The spokesman added that the multinational forces led by the United States would commence operations as soon as possible. He said anyone found armed in the city would be deemed a bandit and steps would be taken against him. Saying that carrying firearms in the city would never be allowed, the SNA army spokesman appealed to the SNA forces to comply with the orders.

Citizens Warned Not To Block Troop Operations

EA1912213092 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali 1700 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] All Somali citizens inside the country are informed that the U.S.-led multinational forces have come to Somalia to defend the people who are helping you, to protect the aid earmarked for the needy Somali people, and to oppose bandits. Therefore, do not attempt to interfere in their operations and do not block the roads they are using.

Ali Mahdi Departs on Ethiopian Visit

Ali Mahdi Departs

EA1912174992 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1400 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Excerpt] Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, the president of the Republic of Somalia, and his high-powered delegation have left Mogadishu airport for Addis Ababa in neighboring Ethiopia.

Briefing newsmen at the VIP lounge at Mogadishu airport, the president said that his visit is in response to an invitation from Ethiopian President Meles Zenawi. During his stay there he will hold talks with Ethiopian Government officials on strengthening of relations between the transitional governments and the peoples of the two countries.

Mr. Mahdi is accompanied by members of his Cabinet and organizations of the country. He called on the Somali people to strive peace for and prayed to God to ease their troubles, and hoped for lasting peace and progress. [passage omitted]

Visit 'Successful'

EA2112125092 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1045 GMT 21 Dec 92

[Summary From Poor Reception] The interim president of Somalia, Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed, and his delegation returned to Mogadishu shortly before noon today after a successful visit to Addis Ababa. Mr. Ali Mahdi Mohamed said that he had held fruitful discussions with President Meles Zenawi on bilateral issues during his visit to Ethiopia.

Aidid Discusses Italian Troop Involvement

AU1812144292 Rome ANSA in English 1245 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] (ANSA) Mogadishu, December 18—Italian troops sent to Somalia as part of a multinational humanitarian mission to ensure that food supplies reach the starving population could be at some risk as a key Somali leader said today their presence was inopportune and he could not vouch for their safety.

General Mohamed Farah Aidid told reporters here today that while the American troops were welcome in Somalia, it was a different story with the Italians because of "historical precedents." When the Americans saw that former Somali dictator Mohammed Siad Barre was committing crimes against the Somali people, they withdrew their support, something the Italian government failed to do, he said.

When asked at a press conference here if he was in favor of the dispatch of Italian soldiers to Somalia, General Aidid answered in the negative.

Aidid is both president of the Somali National Alliance (SNA) of four formations that divide control of the national territory, and of the United Somali Congress (USC), the country's chief political party.

When questioned, he had just met with Italian envoy Enrico Augelli who was representing Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo. Just moments before, Aidid had been warmly shaking Augelli's hand in front of the cameras, thanking him for the visit and for the attention and concern Colombo had shown for Somalia's problems when the Italian diplomatic chief paid a visit here on September 9.

It would be a mistake for Italy to begin sending in military contingents at this difficult moment, Aidid told reporters. Somalis are suffering and dying as they await humanitarian aid, he said, but they expect Italo-Somali friendship to be advanced in "a more serious manner", through economic cooperation, for example.

The general denied knowledge of whether or not Italian troops had already arrived in this country but insisted that the Italians should send in concrete humanitarian relief, not soldiers. What help is a military contingent to Somalis who suffer, Aidid asked rhetorically, even

though the multinational force was organized because international aid was being commandeered by warlords and local armed gangs.

So far those forces in Somalia to take part in Operation Restore Hope include U.S. marines, French paratroopers, Pakistani troops from UNOSOM (the United Nations Operation for Somalia) and soldiers from Italy, Canada, Belgium, Saudi Arabia, Botswana and Morocco, while Nigeria, Uganda and Turkey have announced they will be sending troops in soon.

Aidid insisted that there were plenty of soldiers in Somalia now, enough to keep supply lines open. Moreover, Somalia has its own police and soldiers to do the job, he continued, pulling out the same argument he used in the past to delay the arrival here of United Nations peacekeeping forces.

Until Operation Restore Hope got underway, aid efforts in Somalia were severely hampered by rampaging armed groups which seized food and other emergency goods as they reached the country and carried them off at gunpoint before they could be distributed to those most in need. The USC has claimed that much of the aid ended up in neighboring Kenya, where the followers of deposed Somali dictator Siad Barre have their stronghold.

In Aidid's view, the multinational effort would be better directed at helping Somalia's own security forces to maintain public order and the general became hot under the collar that indirect aid was arriving here through the United Nations and that the Somalis had not been allowed a voice in any part of the operation.

Aidid said Somalia wants direct aid from Italy and feels it is entitled to this, given the long relationship that has existed between the two countries and the fact that Italy has had long experience here.

For him, what was positive about his meeting Thursday [18 December] with Augelli was that the Italian Government is promising to send aid to the African country, although the extent of that aid has not yet been defined, Aidid went on.

On a diplomatic plane, Somalia has asked Italy for help with solving political problems and with setting up transport and communications links in the country, the general said.

Aidid also took the United Nations to task for organizing reconciliation conferences outside Somali without letting Somalis first talk amongst themselves.

This was an evident reference to the UN-sponsored conference held in Addis Ababa at the end of November and to the new peace parley announced for January 4. He pointed to the fact that just a week ago, it had taken him and rival Somali leader Ali Mahdi, head of state ad interim, only a few hours to endorse an essential seven-point accord.

When Augelli heard of Aidid's comments concerning the Italian contribution to Operation Restore Hope, the Italian envoy said he felt that the general's words had run away with him under the pressure of reporters' questions and that they did not reflect his true feelings. The USC leader has been concerned lest the arrival of Italian forces might in some way weaken his position here, but these troops will in no way interfere with internal politics, Augelli said. Italy holds that the humanitarian mission will serve to pave the way so that civil strife in Somalia can be settled not by force of arms but on a political plane, he said.

Meanwhile, Operation Ibis, Italy's contribution to the multinational Operation Restore Hope in Somalia, got into gear this week as 44 men and 16 armored vehicles arrived in the Somali capital on board five transport planes.

Italian naval vessels are presently on their way towards the drought, war, and famine stricken Horn of Africa country and two ferries are being fitted out to carry 13 helicopters to Somalia.

According to Italian Defence Minister Salvo Ando, all the 2,300 Italian forces personnel pledged for the huge humanitarian operation in Somalia will be in place by January 4.

Aidid Statement

EA1812211892 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali 1700 GMT 12 Dec 92

[Text] The chairman of the Somali National Alliance [SNA] and of the United Somali Congress [USC] held talks during the evening of 17 December with an Italian delegation led by Mr. Enrico Augelli, special representative [to Somalia], on relations between the two countries. The chairman said longstanding cordial relations linked the two countries and peoples and that the Somali people welcomed and were awaiting the fulfillment of the pledge made by Mr. Emilio Colombo, the Italian foreign minister, that the policies of the former Italian Governments towards Somalia would change and that a new chapter in bilateral relations would be opened to clear the minds of the Somali people of doubt and also that aid provided for Somalia would continue as an incentive to rectifying relations.

Although the Italian Government delegation brought no new ideas, the special representative reiterated the need to improve relations between the two countries with a view to removing suspicion. The representative also requested that Italian troops arriving in the country to participate in humanitarian operations be made welcome.

Aidid told the representative that the Somali people did not want Italy to send in its troops, because, primarily, there were enough troops in the country. The chairman

said the Italian Government ought first to give Somalia what we had requested and which it had pledged to give us before anything else.

The meeting ended in an atmosphere of understanding.

After the meeting ended, Italian journalists asked the chairman why the American troops had been welcomed, but not the Italian troops. The chairman replied that the two issues were different and that the Somali people viewed America and Italy differently. He said Somalia and Italy had a special relationship for a century, whereby the Somalis had hoped with great expectations that Italy would play a major role in the humanitarian efforts for Somalia, but this had not happened. The U.S. administration had taken up a clear position on Somali affairs both before and during the war against the dictatorial regime of Siad.

Italians in Jalalaxi

AU2112111692 Rome ANSA in English 1016 GMT 21 Dec 92

[Text] (ANSA) Mogadishu, December 21—Italian combat troops committed to the United States-led Operation Restore Hope in Somalia will be assigned security duties in the city of Jalalaxi, 159 kilometers from Mogadishu, the commanding officer of Italy's Operation Ibis confirmed today as word arrived from the Italian cruiser Vittorio Veneto at sea that the 24th naval group will be standing off the capital by Tuesday [22 December].

General Giampiero Rossi, in overall command of the 2,200 troops Italy has pledged to the multinational aid protection operation under the aegis of the United Nations, reached Mogadishu earlier today aboard an air force Hercules C-130 transport plane in the company of another 54 soldiers and supplies.

He reported that the five ships transporting 300 troops and logistical supplies are expected to arrive Tuesday or Wednesday and went on to address himself to fears of a hostile reception here for the Italians. The general said he was "confident" that any bad feelings on the side of the Somalis will be eliminated "when the sides involved understand that we are here to bring support and aid to everyone."

General Rossi, the commander of Italy's rapid intervention force and past deputy commanding officer of the Third Army Corps, said the rules of engagement laid down will allow recourse to arms only in self defense or to guarantee the successful pursuit of duties.

He said his only real concern was with "those who are mad, any possible unleashed dogs. We are authorized to disarm bands of raiders but this will happen only in the case in which there is, on their side, a threat against us or when this can be done without risk to the men."

Taking weapons away from roving bands, he explained, can occur only if Italian troop strength is clearly superior or if a truck with machine guns mounted aboard, of the

type which prowled the streets of the capital until recently, poses a threat to the security of Italian soldiers.

Also Sunday, 15 Italian navy commandos checked out sites for the landing of the battalion arriving Tuesday. Leaving their quarters at the new port of Mogadishu and travelling to the old port to the north, the Italians were welcomed by many passers-by, mainly children.

But, still haunted by their nation's colonial past here, which dated from the end of the last century to the creation of the Somali republic in 1960, the commandos also heard people shouting something like "Italians, murderers always return to the scene of the crime."

The envoy of Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo, Enrico Augelli, also spent Sunday preparing for the arrival of the Operation Ibis ships in meeting the spokesman of the Hiwadle clan, Ali Ashi, which controls the area around Jalalaxi in the Hiram region.

The spokesman told Augelli that the Italians will be welcomed in the area and especially in Jalalaxi.

Tomorrow, the Italian envoy is scheduled to meet the clan's "crown prince," Ugas Kalif.

In the morning today, Augelli turned over Italian food and medical aid to the director of the Medina hospital, Mohammed Mahamud. The goods were the first relief items from Italy since doctors of the Medecins Sans Frontieres left the hospital two months ago.

There are now around 190 Italian troops in the Somali capital and the arrivals Tuesday or Wednesday will bring in more troops and supplies slightly ahead of schedule. Originally, they were due in Mogadishu on Christmas eve and Christmas day.

So far, those forces in Somalia taking part in operation Restore Hope include U.S. Marines, French paratroopers, Pakistani troops from UNOSOM (the United Nations Operation for Somalia) and soldiers from Italy, Canada, Belgium, Saudi Arabia, Botswana and Morocco, while Nigeria, Uganda and Turkey have announced they will be sending troops in soon.

Italian naval vessels are presently on their way towards the drought, war, and famine stricken Horn of Africa country and two ferries are being fitted out to carry 13 helicopters to Somalia.

According to Italian Defence Minister Salvo Ando, all the 2,200 Italian forces personnel pledged for the huge humanitarian operation in Somalia will be in place by January 4.

Tribal-Based Massacre in Kismaayo Condemned

EA1912191792 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1400 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] A joint statement released by the United Somali Congress, Somali Salvation Democratic Front, Somali Democratic Alliance, Somali Patriotic Movement,

Somali National Front, United Somali Front, Somali Democratic Movement, and United Somali Party says that they condemn utterly the [word indistinct] act which recently took place in Kismaayo, Jubbada Hoose region, which involved very many innocent people from among the vulnerable.

The statement adds that this terrible act was committed by a group of armed forces who forcibly control the region under the command of Ahmed Omar Jays. These defenseless people were massacred on tribal grounds. The political organizations condemn this savage act and call upon the United Nations and the forces spearheaded by the United States to oppose this sad massacre and also to contribute to rescuing these defenseless people.

Officials To Support U.S. Efforts in Kismaayo

EA1912211392 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu in Somali 1700 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Excerpts] Mr. Robert Oakley, the U.S. ambassador to Somalia, and his delegation arrived today at Kismaayo international airport. The ambassador, who was on a working visit, was warmly received at the airport by Mr. Ahmed Omar Jays, the Somali National Alliance [SNA] vice chairman and Somali Patriotic Movement [SPM] chairman; Mr. Ahmed Hashi Mahmoud, the SPM vice-chairman, and other officials.

Mr. Ahmed Omar Jays and the U.S. ambassador discussed the forces due to arrive in the region. The ambassador said that tomorrow the U.S. and Belgian forces will arrive in Kismaayo under U.S. command. He also said that the forces will not interfere with religious and cultural affairs, but that their duties are to provide humanitarian aid to the suffering people. Therefore it is necessary to vacate the port, the coast, and the Kismaayo airport tonight. The ambassador said that arms should not be moved about inside the town.

The ambassador expressed gratitude for the way he was received in Kismaayo. He gave a briefing on the work of the forces in Mogadishu and Baidoa, and the need [for Somalis] to work with the U.S. and Belgian forces.

Mr. Jays, speaking on behalf of the SNA executive committee, expressed thanks for the ambassador's visit to Kismaayo. He also said that his forces had evacuated the town, are camped [outside of it], and will welcome and work with the U.S. troops due to arrive. However, the SNA never wants the country to be colonized or divided. [passage omitted]

The ambassador asked for the deployment of the police force to ensure security.

Mr. Jays said the forces to arrive in the region will do something about the destroyed economic mainstays and will help the suffering people in the region. Later, Mr. Jays and Oakley toured the port, the airport, and the big market. [passage omitted]

Mr. Ahmed Omar Jays called on all the organizations and the Somali people to come together to form a transitional government to pave the way for a democratic government to rule the Somali people in justice and equality. [passage omitted].

Ali Mahdi Radio Notes Kismaayo Operation

EA2012154892 Mogadishu Voice of the Somali Republic in Somali 1045 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] About 300 U.S. and Belgian soldiers arrived in Kismaayo, Jubbada Hoose Region, this morning to save the starving people there. These forces will protect the food aid sent to the region to ensure it reaches the needy people. Landing from amphibious craft, the troops did not encounter any problems. Before the arrival of the U.S. and Belgian soldiers in Kismaayo, reconnaissance was carried out by Belgian helicopters under the cover of U.S. [word indistinct].

Latest Developments on Relief Efforts 21 Dec

Men Disarmed Near Baidoa

AB1912175692 Paris AFP in English 1734 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Mogadishu, Dec 19 (AFP)—A force of U.S. tanks and helicopters and French paratroopers disarmed a group of 100 armed men near Baidoa Saturday [19 December] in the first operation of its kind in Somalia, a military spokesman said here.

The international force seized a huge array of weapons including six jeeps fitted with heavy machine guns, an antiaircraft gun and light weapons.

The operation followed a meeting between military commanders and local elders from Baidoa, which is situated 250 kilometers (about 150 miles) west of the Somali capital and has been dubbed the epicenter of the Somali famine.

A French reconnaissance patrol spotted the armed gang early afternoon about six kilometers (four miles) from the airport, and commanders immediately decided to launch an operation, said Colonel Jean-Pierre Perruche, spokesman for the French forces.

U.S. and French forces encircled the building where the armed men were meeting and disarmed them. They met with no resistance.

"The weapons seized were impressive," said Perruche. As well as the six "technicals"—battered Somali vehicles fitted with machine guns—the troops found a truck fitted with a 37mm Chinese-made antiaircraft gun, and "hundreds of light weapons."

Sacks of rice collected by French school children to feed starving Somalis were also found in the building.

"They (the sacks of rice) are being returned to the people for whom they were intended," said Perruche. [passage omitted]

Meanwhile military sources said American and Belgian troops could reach the coastal town of Kismaayo, 400 kilometers (250 miles) south of the capital, at dawn on Sunday. The town has been badly hit by inter-clan fighting.

Red Cross Trucks Hijacked

AB2012104792 Paris AFP in English 1020 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] Mogadishu, Dec 20 (AFP)—Thirty ICRC [International Committee of the Red Cross]-chartered trucks carrying rice have been hijacked 12 kilometers (seven miles) north of the Somali capital, a U.N. official announced Sunday [20 December].

The Red Cross trucks and their cargo "disappeared" Saturday in a region not under control of Operation Restore Hope forces, Mark Sterling of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) said.

The trucks were hijacked in an area that is under control of interim President Ali Mahdi Mohamed.

Patrice Franceschi, an aide to the French relief organization Action Humanitaire Francaise, told AFP that there had been security problems in unloading the rice, which had been collected by French children.

The unloading of the rice from the ship Tadorne was only finally finished Saturday in Mogadishu port, more than a month after the vessel arrived in dock, and the ICRC then took charge of the cargo.

No spokesman for the ICRC was immediately available for comment.

French Observation Post Attacked

AB2112082792 Paris AFP in English 0735 GMT 21 Dec 92

[Text] Mogadishu, Dec 21 (AFP)—Three armed Somalis were wounded, one seriously, Sunday [20 December] when they attacked a French observation post in Baidoa, 250 kilometers (150 miles) west of here, a French military spokesman said Monday. Colonel Jean Pierre Perruche said the raid by about 10 armed Somalis aboard a pickup truck was beaten back at 9:30 P.M. (1830 GMT) four kilometers (2.5 miles) northwest of the airport. He added that the assailants' vehicle was stopped by a sharpshooter.

Reinforcements from a French Foreign Legion unit also came under automatic weapon fire less than a mile further south, the spokesman said.

"The French riposte was carried out in line with legitimate self-defense rules," he noted. Perruche said two U.S. helicopters joined in the hot pursuit of the attackers, most of whom escaped.

Some 150 French soldiers have been in Baidoa along with a much larger U.S. military contingent since Wednesday [16 December] as part of Operation Restore Hope to escort delivery of food aid to starving Somalis.

Saturday, [19 December] the French troops joined their U.S. counterpart in disarming a heavily-armed Somali gang.

Tuesday, [22 December] some 100 French troops are to escort a food convoy bound for Baidoa and in the middle of the week, the entire French contingent is to head for Udur, further north, where it is to be based, their commander, General Rene Delhomme, told reporters. Some 1,500 more French troops are due to arrive here before Christmas and their deployment was expected to be completed by January 10, he added.

Sudanese Plane Arrives With Aid

EA1912112092 Omdurman Sudan Broadcasting Service Network in Arabic 0315 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] The fifth Sudanese relief plane arrived at Mogadishu Airport yesterday carrying 23 tonnes of aid, including 10 tonnes of rice and quantities of food and medicines. The aid comes within the framework of the air bridge being implemented by the committee supporting Somalia in the Arab and Islamic People's Congress.

Mr. Muhammad al-Tijani Abu-Bakr, a committee member, said there were special arrangements for guaranteeing the continuation of the air bridge, which would involve an average of two planes a week. His excellency pointed out that between 50,000 and 60,000 tonnes of relief supplies would be transported to Somalia by sea. He added that about 20 tonnes were waiting in Port Sudan, and the first ship was expected to sail to Somali ports next week after adequate information had been received about the situation there.

Insecurity North of Green Line

AB2112140092 Paris AFP in English 1345 GMT 21 Dec 92

[Excerpts] Mogadishu, Dec 21 (AFP)—Heavily armed bands, initially dissuaded by the massive U.S. military presence here, have reactivated to the north of the capital's green line, looting and terrorizing food distribution centers trying to feed Somalia's starving, relief workers said Monday [21 December]. [passage omitted]

In Mogadishu, Mark Thomas of UNICEF said: "The area is now heavy with AK-47s (automatic rifles) and technicals," referring to the civilian pickup trucks fitted with heavy machine guns or rocket launchers. [passage omitted]

"We have pleaded with the Marines for protection," said Thomas. "Any military presence would do. They are aware of the problem, but they say they are waiting for more troops to arrive until they have sufficient force to address it. They are well aware of what is going on."

He said the nearly 30 food distribution centers operating north of the line were virtually paralyzed by the terror

outside their doors, and badly-needed food overflowing in warehouses there is useless.

"There is a situation brewing there," said Thomas. "We're hoping they don't drag their feet too long."

Thomas said a group of German journalists filming north of the green line had been robbed of all their money, jewelry and equipment—by the people they were interviewing.

"It's just not a safe place to be," he said.

World Food Program (WFP) representative David Kaatrud said the international distribution effort elsewhere in Somalia was going better, with distribution points in Kismaayo on the southern coast and Baidoa and Baardheere in the arid interior functioning under military protection.

"We're enjoying the new security and we hope some of it will remain in place when they leave," he said.

Meanwhile Monday, there were reports that the chiefs of Somalia's principal warring factions would soon hold peace talks under U.S. auspices in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

The reports said Colonel Mohamed Farah Aidid, leader of the United Somali Congress, and Mohamed Nur Aliyow, head of the rival Somali Democratic Movement, were either already in Addis Ababa, or en route.

Uganda

Council Decides Troops To Be Sent to Somalia

AB1812172092 Paris AFP in English 1542 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Kampala, Dec 18 (AFP)—Uganda is to send an undetermined number of troops to Somalia on peace-keeping duties, the country's National Resistance Council (NRC - parliament) decided on Thursday [17 December] in a special session.

A statement issued at the end of the meeting said the Ugandan troops would be sent "to facilitate food distribution to the starving population," but did not specify how many troops would be sent. But the influential Weekly Topic newspaper said Friday that the number would be at least 5,000.

The statement did not give date of departure for the troops, the first that Uganda would be sending out to be involved in peacekeeping duties.

The statement said the decision to send troops to facilitate to smooth flow of relief aid to war-torn Somalia.

"In the first case, Somalia is an African problem which the Organization of African Unity (OAU) should have solved if it had the means," the statement concluded.

Senior SADF Officers Retired, 'Third Force' Involved**De Klerk on Retirement***MB1912110592 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1051 GMT 19 Dec 92*

[Text] Cape Town Dec 19 SAPA—Six senior members of the South African Defence Force [SADF] have been placed on compulsory retirement following disclosures of illegal activities relating to SADF intelligence functions, State President F.W. de Klerk announced on Saturday [19 December]. Two generals and four brigadiers are among the 16 SADF officers in all who have been retired, with immediate effect.

Addressing a press conference on the preliminary findings of an investigation into SADF covert operations, conducted by Lt-Gen Pierre Steyn, Mr. de Klerk said a further seven members of the force had been placed on compulsory leave pending further investigations.

He said the identities of the uniformed members would be disclosed as soon as possible, but the names of civilian collaborators would not be published, in keeping with international practice. Where applicable, however, their names would be made available to the Goldstone Commission, police and the attorneys-general.

Mr. de Klerk said Gen Steyn's interim report and feedback from various special investigations showed that "a limited number of members, contract members and collaborators" of the SADF had been involved, and in some cases were still involved in illegal and/or unauthorised activities and malpractices. These activities pointed to a process in which political office-bearers, SADF commanders and the auditor-general were not fully informed or in which they were often misled.

Although only a limited number of SADF members were involved, it indicated a serious and unacceptable state of affairs which could and would not be tolerated.

Further steps announced by Mr. de Klerk included the continuation of Gen Steyn's investigation, disciplinary action based on possible further disclosures, co-operation with the Goldstone Commission, intensified administrative and financial controls and criminal prosecutions involving the police and attorneys-general where appropriate.

These followed previous measures to prevent and eliminate abuse in the SADF, such as the disbanding of the Civil Co-operation Bureau (CCB), changes in the security management system, intensified political controls and greater powers for the auditor-general. He said these actions confirmed the government's determination to act against irregularities with a view to ensuring a clean administration.

President de Klerk said any individual or organisation which fanned violence, promoted conflict or undermined negotiations was "standing in the path of the majority of South Africans".

"We dare not allow these elements who are delaying a new dispensation and who continue to promote conflict to succeed in their objectives," he said.

De Klerk 'Shocked'*MB1912121892 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1200 GMT 19 Dec 92*

[Text] Cape Town Dec 19 SAPA—Preliminary information about the activities of certain members of intelligence units of the SADF [South African Defense Force] has left South African President F.W. de Klerk shocked and disappointed.

"However, I'm also resolute. I always said if there is a sore, I want to cut it out to the bone and I think we are finally on our way to doing so. We will use every effort to attain that goal," he said.

Mr. de Klerk was addressing a press conference on Saturday [19 December] afternoon after receiving preliminary information on Lt-Gen Pierre Steyn's investigation into all the intelligence functions of the South African Defence Force.

This information revealed some "serious and unacceptable illegal and or unauthorised" activities which could finally lead to the conclusion that political murders had been committed.

De Klerk Statement*MB1912112792 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1059 GMT 19 Dec 92*

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by SA Communication Service: "Statement by the State President, Mr. F.W. de Klerk"]

[Text] On 18 November 1992, in pursuance of Mr. Justice Goldstone's statement of 16 November, I gave certain instructions to Lt-Gen Pierre Steyn to conduct a full investigation of all of the intelligence functions of the SA Defence Force.

He has just brought his first preliminary findings and important supporting information to my attention. This information, together with the results and feedback from various special investigations, indicate that a limited number of members, contract members and collaborators of the SA Defence Force have been involved, and in some cases are still involved, in illegal and/or unauthorised activities and malpractices.

Some of these special investigations were the result of previous government instructions as well as initiatives of the present and previous ministers of defence.

The activities which have now come to my attention point to a process in which political office-bearers, Defence Force commanders and the auditor-general were not fully informed or, very often, were misled.

I would like to emphasise that only a limited number of persons and a few units are involved. Nevertheless, the information at my disposal indicates a serious and unacceptable state of affairs.

This cannot, and will not, be tolerated.

The good name of the entire Defence Force, which has served South Africa with so much distinction, is being threatened by the unacceptable activities of a handful of individuals.

The SA Defence Force [SADF] plays a valued and indispensable role in our society. Together with the SA Police, the SADF guarantees the security of all peace-loving South Africans with regard to the protection of their basic interests in the period of constitutional transition which lies ahead.

As commander-in-chief of the SADF, I have an absolute duty and responsibility to protect this essential role. I also owe it to the overwhelming majority of loyal and dedicated members of the security [forces] to uphold the proud tradition and well-earned reputation of our security forces by cutting to the root of any malpractices.

Far-reaching steps have already been taken to prevent and eliminate just such abuses. These include, among others, the disbandment of the CCB [Civil Cooperation Bureau], important changes to the security management system, the activities of the Khan Committee, intensified political control and greater powers for the auditor-general.

As a result of the information which has now been conveyed to me steps are being taken with immediate effect to bring to an end all illegal or unauthorised activities and malpractices which have now come to light. With this objective in mind, and as a first step with regard to reorganisation, seven members of the SADF have been placed on compulsory leave, pending the conclusion of further investigations. Furthermore, 16 members, including two generals and four brigadiers have been placed on compulsory retirement, together with compulsory leave, with immediate effect.

The names of the uniformed members involved will be made known as soon as possible. In keeping with international practice the names of civilian collaborators will not be published, but where applicable, particulars concerning them will be made available to the Goldstone Commission, the SA Police and the attorneys-general.

Further steps which now will follow, include the following:

The active continuation of the investigation of Lt-Gen Steyn and those who are assisting him.

Quick and firm disciplinary action, based on any further information which might come to light.

Cooperation with the Goldstone Commission, where information may become available relevant to its investigation.

Intensified administrative and financial control measures.

Court-related actions where prima facie evidence is available indicating possible criminal prosecution. The SA Police and the attorneys-general will naturally be involved in this process.

Further facts will be revealed to the public in the course of court proceedings, in reports of the auditor-general and of the commissions of investigation.

These actions confirm the government's determination to act against irregularities with a view to ensuring clean administration.

It is in everyone's interest that allegations and evidence concerning malpractices in the security forces should be dealt with the greatest responsibility. We dare not allow our security forces in general, and our intelligence services in particular, to be crippled in their capacity to work against the evil plans of those responsible for violence and unrest. I stand by our security forces and our intelligence services and am convinced that they will, in fact, be strengthened and encouraged by effective action against the malpractices concerned which have cast a shadow over everyone.

The government demands that its political opponents should act with equal decisiveness against crime and malpractices in their ranks. The role of some of their supporters and often of prominent members in positions of authority, in crime, violence, intimidation and disruption—historically and now—can be doubted by no-one. Fine words and clever public relations are just not good enough.

All South Africans long for peace. Any individual or organisation which fanned violence, promotes conflict and undermines the constitutional or peace negotiations, is standing in the path of the overwhelming majority of all South Africans. We dare not allow that these elements, who are delaying a new dispensation and who continue to promote conflict, to succeed with their objectives.

For this reason the government will not hesitate to act against such people, regardless of who they might be, or wherever they may be found.

At the same time we will continue to ensure that the South African public will be served by security forces who are irreproachably neutral and free from political manipulation.

Issued by the State President's Office Cape Town, 19 December 1992

De Klerk News Conference

MB1912113692 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1117
GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Cape Town Dec 19 SAPA—Available evidence could mean that some activities of certain South African Defence Force [SADF] members "led to the deaths of people", President F.W. de Klerk said on Saturday [19 September]. Mr. de Klerk was speaking at a press conference in reaction to an interim report from Lt-Gen Pierre Steyn, who is investigating the intelligence functions of the SADF.

He said: "I think I can say that the findings will lead to the conclusion that some activities led to the death of people. I don't think one can say that the relatively limited number of people involved in any way could constitute a 'third force'. That term has become something to denote a sinister force behind all the political problems of South Africa. There is no evidence of such a force in the security forces. I don't think the extent of the actions can lead to the jeopardy of state security."

There were indications that some activities and individuals might have been motivated to prevent success in constitutional goals, but there was as yet no evidence pointing to anyone wanting to violently overthrow the government.

Mr. de Klerk said the main cause of South Africa's violence was conflict between supporters of political parties killing each other.

In reply to a question on whether the irregularities uncovered so far in the SADF were the "tip of an iceberg", Mr. de Klerk said he did not think they were. Quick disciplinary action had been taken, he noted. "We are dealing with a small corps and a limited number of people."

The only common thread existing between those already identified in the investigation was that they were all members of the SADF. There were indications that "some of the people maintained contact with political activists outside the scope of the forces."

Mr. de Klerk said a decision had not yet been taken whether or not to disband the Directorate of Covert Collection. All governments had to collect covert information and whether it was the CIA or MI5, these organisations needed some latitude because they operated in a shadow world.

"The test is that that latitude and lack of absolute regulation required to operate effectively should be well-managed and supported by internal measures. We are therefore looking at upgrading the already upgraded control." If the directorate were disbanded, some functions would have to be continued after being cleared of all malpractice.

Mr. de Klerk said there was no information at his disposal that any minister had authorised any illegal

activities, which ranged from criminal "to maybe own political agendas of a small band of people."

Defense Minister Statement

MB2012184092 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1715
GMT 20 Dec 92

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by SA Communication Service: "News Release From Mr. Gene Louw, LP, minister of defence and of public works: Action with regard to the SA Defence Force 30 December 1992"]

[Text] The minister of defence and of public works, Mr. Gene Louw, said he has learnt with disappointment of the involvement of a small element of the defence force in illegal and or unauthorised activities and malpractices.

Although it can be emphasized that only a small group has been involved, it is necessary for the South African Defence Force [SADF] as a whole to be cleared of all irregularities.

In the transitional period in which South Africa finds itself, the Defence Force can only perform its stabilising role properly when it is not being clogged.

For this reason the Defence Force must be unstained and perform its military functions professionally and above suspicion of possible political motives. The Defence Force must in every respect be politically non-aligned and act strictly in accordance with military procedures and the laws of the country. No soldier is above the laws of the country or the military code.

The Defence Force as a whole is bigger than individuals. For this reason I want to assure every soldier in the country, no matter in what capacity he or she serves, that the government and I, as the responsible minister, are behind them. There is high appreciation and gratitude for the work and sacrifice our soldiers did and still are doing in difficult circumstances.

In the future South Africa will need our Defence Force. There still is nonsensical violence and the actions of radicals that will have to be curbed and which can even increase. Without the stabilising and anchor role of the Defence Force, these actions can easily become beyond control.

The immediate effectivity of the Defence Force is not affected by these events. Where necessary reorganisation will take place and the readiness of the Defence Force will not be harmed. No defence force in the world can survive without a sharp sophisticated intelligence gathering capability. The South African Defence Force would be totally paralysed without this capability.

The most effective and improved restructuring of the Defence Force's intelligence gathering action in its totality, therefore, will have to be looked into immediately.

For this reason I seriously appeal to political movements and parties—left and right of the spectrum—not to exploit any current events for political purposes or to cast suspicion.

We shall expose and oppose any effort to discredit or to lay claim on the defence force for political or personal reasons.

It is essential that current investigations continue according to acknowledged and recognised procedures in a responsible manner.

The outcome must be that our defence force, one of the most precious assets, should be pure and a pride for all well-meaning South Africans. Issued by the minister of defence and of public works: Cape Town

Defense Ministry: 'Nothing To Add'

MB2012105392 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0909
GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] Cape Town Dec 20 SAPA—Defence Ministry spokesman Commandant Riaan Louw on Sunday [20 December] said he had nothing to add, at this stage, to the state president's revelations on criminal and unauthorised actions by at least 23 senior SA Defence Force [SADF] officers. Commandant Louw would neither deny nor confirm the alleged involvement in dirty-tricks of army chief of staff, Maj-Gen Hendrik Roux and the deputy chief of staff intelligence, Maj-Gen Chris Thirion, who were named in Sunday newspaper reports.

"We have, at this stage, nothing to add to the state president's statement in Cape Town on Saturday," Commandant Louw said. Mr de Klerk, at a press conference on Saturday, said the names of the SADF members involved, but not the civilian collaborators, would be released at the end of the month.

The 23 SADF officers, including at least two generals and four brigadiers, were immediately retired or suspended following an internal investigation by SADF Chief of Staff General Pierre Steyn into covert military actions. A Sunday newspaper report said neither chief of the army Lt-Gen Georg Meiring nor Chief of Staff Intelligence Lt-Gen Joffel van der Westhuizen, were among them.

Mr. de Klerk on Saturday said the findings of the Steyn investigations "will lead to the conclusion that some activities led to the deaths of people". However, he denied the evidence indicated the existence of a formal "third force" responsible for political violence, and said the extent of the illegal actions did not threaten state security.

Military 'Stunned'

MB2012101792 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in
English 20 Dec 92 p 1

[By Norman West: "Big SADF Purge"]

[Excerpts] President De Klerk yesterday cut short his Christmas holiday to purge rebel SADF [South African

Defense Force] officers involved in possible murder plots and attempts to sabotage his reforms.

"I am shocked and disappointed, but resolute," said the president at a hastily convened press conference in Cape Town.

Twenty-three officers, including at least two generals and four brigadiers, were immediately retired or suspended as a result of an internal investigation by SADF Chief of Staff General Pierre Steyn into covert military activity.

The action has stunned the military.

The army's public relations office was not informed of the press conference and many of the disciplined officers were still on holiday, unaware of their suspension.

Senior military officers reacted with astonishment to the announcement.

"It is clear that the entire military establishment was deliberately kept in the dark," said a shocked senior officer in Pretoria.

Secrecy still surrounds the identities of the rebels, although it is understood they include two of South Africa's most senior officers. President de Klerk is to name the men at the end of the month.

Top officers in the SADF were not available for comment yesterday.

Mr. de Klerk's swift action followed apparently conclusive evidence uncovered by General Steyn that officers and civilian collaborators involved themselves in criminal and unauthorised actions and then misled their commanders, ministers and the Auditor-General.

"The information at my disposal indicates a serious and unacceptable state of affairs. This cannot, and will not, be tolerated," said Mr. de Klerk. He emphasised that only a "limited" number of people and units were involved.

The purge, the biggest in the history of the SADF, followed a series of investigations, inquest hearings and trials in which military intelligence officers were implicated in dirty tricks ranging from blackmail to possible murder. [passage omitted]

General Steyn was appointed on November 18 by Mr. de Klerk to investigate covert military actions following disclosures by Judge Richard Goldstone's commission.

After more than three years of deception, evasions and lies on the part of a number of senior SADF officers, General Steyn's inquiry succeeded in one month in uncovering sufficient evidence of criminal and irregular activity to warrant the suspension or retirement of 23 officers.

Officers Listed

MB2012104492 Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English 20 Dec 92 p 1

[By SUNDAY TIMES reporters: "How the generals got involved in politics"]

[Text] A number of senior military officers have been linked in the past to activities outside normal military duty.

Among them are:

—SADF [South African Defense Force] chief, General AJ "KAT" LIEBENBERG, 54 has been linked to the CCB [Civil Cooperation Bureau] through its predecessors, Project Barnacle and the D40 unit, both operational while he was chief of special forces in the 80s.

Known as a hardliner, there has been speculation that President de Klerk has plans to replace Gen Liebenberg with his second in charge, Chief of Staff Lt-General Pierre Steyn. Gen Liebenberg joined the army in 1955. During the border war, he was commanding officer of Sector 10 (Owamboland). He became chief of the army in 1985 and chief of the SADF in November 1990.

—Lt-General GEORG MEIRING, 53, chief of the army, is the man whose signature appears on top of secret documents giving final approval to Project Echoes' clandestine operation launched in April to discredit the ANC [African National Congress] by linking its military wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation], to the IRA. The project was aborted when two MI agents, Leon Flores and Captain Pamela du Randt, were arrested in London.

—Military Intelligence chief General JOFFEL VAN DER WESTHUIZEN has been at the centre of renewed calls for a new inquest into the murder of East Cape activist Mathew Goniwe. While officer commanding Eastern Province Command, Gen van der Westhuizen founded the Hammer Unit, a covert squad that has been accused of murdering activists.

—Brigadier TOLLETJIE BOTHA, director Covert Collection, whose job included co-ordination of covert information gathering projects. He was the man in charge of DCC's [Directorate of Covert Collection] operational headquarters in Momentum Mews, Lynwood, Pretoria, when it was raided last month by investigators from the Goldstone commission.

According to the Goldstone commission, Brig Botha sanctioned the recruitment of convicted murderer and sacked CCB agent Ferdi Barnard for a "dirty tricks" campaign aimed at discrediting the ANC.

—Military Intelligence officer Brigadier FERDI VAN WYK, whose name was in top secret military documents presented at the inquest into the murder of lawyer Bheki Mlangeni, who died when a tape recorder exploded. The documents revealed that Brig van Wyk was the mastermind behind Project Echoes.

—Colonel GERRIE BORMAN and Commandant TERENCE SCALLAN were named by former CCB agent Ferdi Barnard in a statement after the Goldstone commission's raid on the Directorate of Covert Collection. He claimed they had told him there was a need for intelligence on "certain criminal activities of members of Umkhonto we Sizwe" and ordered him to submit a proposal on how he would go about it.

Goldstone Welcomes 'Firm Steps'

MB1912112892 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1105 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—The Goldstone Commission has welcomed Saturday's [19 December] statement by President F.W. de Klerk on Lt-Gen Pierre Steyn's investigation into South African Defence Force [SADF] intelligence functions. Mr. Justice Richard Goldstone told SAPA: "The commission welcomes the firm steps just announced by the state president." He added: "Further comment at this time is not appropriate."

The state president said sixteen SADF members, including two generals and four brigadiers, had been placed on compulsory retirement following disclosures of illegal activities related to SADF intelligence functions.

ANC Response

MB1912151992 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1501 GMT 19 Dec 92

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by African National Congress [ANC]: "ANC Response to President de Klerk's Acknowledgement of Serious Malpractice by the South African Security Force"]

[Text] President de Klerk has finally acknowledged that serious malpractice and activities that undermine organisations and events originates from the security forces. This confirms what the African National Congress has said over for a long time. There is clearly a third force operating within the security forces which fosters violence, with the objective of preventing South Africa's transition to a just and democratic society.

The ANC [African National Congress] commends President de Klerk for acknowledging that "a serious and unacceptable state of affairs" exists. However, it is sad that it took him so long to respond to a situation that has been glaringly apparent. It was exactly because of such third force activities by elements of the security forces that the ANC suspended negotiations in 1991. If President de Klerk had acted then many lives could have been saved.

The steps announced by President de Klerk is a step in the right direction, but is not nearly enough. The route

that he has taken cannot be allowed to pre-empt and prevent further exposures. There should be full public disclosure of all criminal activities and attempts at destabilisation. The names of those members of the security forces, the acts committed, together with the units involved, must be made public immediately. The people of South Africa demand that disciplinary steps be taken against every security force member that is involved. We also demand that the units involved must be prevented from continuing with their activities. It is inadequate to simply announce that senior defence force members will go on compulsory leave or retirement. This strengthens the impression that the SADF [South African Defence Force] is a partisan and private army of the National Party government. Those responsible for criminal activities must be charged immediately.

A full and comprehensive report of the activities that President de Klerk allude to must be handed as a matter of urgency to Mr. Justice Goldstone for further investigation.

The current revelations are clearly only the tip of the iceberg, since Lt General Steyn's brief is only to investigate military intelligence. Further comprehensive investigations must take place into the SADF, the South African Police and all other security arms of the state. According to President de Klerk's own admission there are powerful people in the security forces who want to undermine negotiations, and "stand in the path of the majority of South Africans". This can never be allowed. This is a crisis of major proportions which has a direct bearing on the negotiating process, transparency is essential, and President de Klerk may not hide the implications of this crisis to the people of South Africa. Any halfhearted measures and further attempts at cover-ups will be an unforgivable betrayal of all South Africans. Issued by:

The Department of Information and Publicity,

P.O. Box 61884, Marshalltown 2107, Johannesburg. 19 December 1992

CP Sees 'Witch-Hunt'

MB1912122492 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1206 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—The Conservative Party [CP] on Saturday [19 December] accused the government of conducting a witch-hunt against senior members of the SA Defence Force [SADF], following State President F W de Klerk's announcement that 16 senior members would be forcibly retired. Making the announcement just an hour earlier at a conference in Cape Town, Mr de Klerk said the 16 members—including two generals and four brigadiers—had been retired following disclosures of illegal activities relating to SADF intelligence functions. A further seven members of the force were placed on compulsory leave pending further investigations.

The actions taken against the members were based on the preliminary findings of an investigation into SADF covert operations, conducted by Lt-Gen Pierre Steyn.

CP defence spokesman Dr. Willie Snyman told SAPA from his Pietersburg home that the party rejected the "witch-hunt" against SADF officers if it was based on hearsay and unfounded allegations. "We think there is a definite onslaught against the senior officers of the SADF from the left."

The CP would close ranks with SADF senior officers whose feelings coincided with the rightwing party on matters related to land [as received] affairs in the present system, he said.

AZAPO: 'Not Far Enough'

MB1912153992 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1336 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 19 SAPA—The Azanian Peoples Organisation [AZAPO] on Saturday said President F.W. de Klerk's decision to suspend or retire 23 senior members of the South African Defence Force [SADF] in an effort to cleanse military intelligence activities did not go far enough.

In a statement, AZAPO said nothing short of the complete "quarantining" of both the South African Police and SADF would satisfy it.

"The suspension of a number of military generals by Mr. F.W. de Klerk vindicates our view that the quarantining of the so-called security forces by a neutral force is the only way of attaining stability during the transitional phase."

It said it did not believe the generals "were a few putrid flies in an otherwise pure ointment".

Mr. de Klerk should submit the country's security forces "to neutralisation by a neutral, international force" and resign his own position to make way for a democratic constituent assembly.

Reaction To Alleged APLA Attack From Lesotho

Police Deployed on Border

MB2012165592 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1600 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Excerpts] Police are to be deployed on all [Orange] Free State farms along the Lesotho border. This extraordinary emergency measure follows the latest attack from Lesotho in which 15-year-old Leonie Pretorius of the farm Donside near Ficksburg was shot dead.

Police trackers said that three men had been involved, and that they had fled across the border. The regional commissioner of police in the Free State, Major General Tertius Calitz, said that policemen would be sent immediately to about 200 border farms between Clarens and Zastron for an unspecified time.

Members of the AWB's [Afrikaner Resistance Movement] Wenkommando [Victory Commando] arrived at Ficksburg just after the incident and Gen. Calitz had to intervene to calm the group. The Lesotho government pledged its full cooperation in trying to track down the killers after it was contacted by Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha. [passage omitted]

There has been another murder in the Border area. Fifty-six-year-old Mr. Clyde Marshall of Stutterheim has died of stab wounds on the farm Oaklands on the Ciskeian border.

A spokesman for the police in East London, Colonel Andre Petzer, said the man had been house-sitting for Mrs. Chrissie Naude when he was attacked. His body, with stab wounds in the chest, was found in the main bedroom by a domestic servant. Col. Petzer said the victim had lived on a smallholding outside Stutterheim. An intensive search for the attackers is under way.

CP Threatens Raids

MB2012160992 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1505 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] Johannesburg Dec 20 SAPA—The Conservative Party's [CP] home guards will launch retribution raids against Azanian People's Liberation Army [APLA] bases in Lesotho unless the government neutralised and destroyed these bases, CP parliamentarian Charl Hertzog said on Sunday.

Mr. Hertzog, CP MP For Ladybrand, said in a statement in the light of the latest attack on white farmers in the Ficksburg area which killed a 14-year-old teenage girl on Saturday, the role of his party's home guards "is ready to be changed from a defensive one to an aggressive one".

"The CP in Ficksburg will be forced to activate retribution raids on APLA bases in Lesotho should the South African Government fail to act within seven days to neutralise and destroy APLA bases in this neighbouring country".

"The CP is not prepared to allow APLA or any other terrorist organisation to ruthlessly murder innocent people with impunity," Mr. Hertzog added.

Earlier Sunday, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha said he had requested the assistance of the Lesotho Government to track down the people responsible for Saturday's midnight handgrenade and gun attack on a farm near Ficksburg during which the teenager was killed.

Police launched a massive manhunt after the attack—the second on white farmers in the Ficksburg area in less than ten days.

Botha Says Lesotho Cooperating

MB2012095092 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0934 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] Pretoria Dec 20 SAPA—The Lesotho Government has given South Africa its full cooperation in tracking down those responsible for a gun- and handgrenade attack on a [Orange] Free State farm on the Lesotho border on Saturday [19 December] night. This is according to a statement by South African Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha on Sunday, who said he had been in contact with the Lesotho Government and that joint South African/Lesotho Police operations were launched to hunt down the attackers.

A 14-year-old girl, Leonie Pretorius, was killed when four unidentified attackers fired shots at the Ficksburg farm house. A handgrenade flung at the house exploded outside the building.

The attack was the second on whites in this area recently and one of several during the past year.

Further Details on Attack Near Transkei

MB2012055292 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 0500 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] The South African Government has closed all roads leading into Transkei at Queenstown and Dordrecht after the latest attack on whites in which five people were wounded last night. Four members of a Dordrecht family and a truck driver were wounded when an attacker at the back of a bakkie unexpectedly opened fire near Agnes Crest in Transkei. A 78-year-old man, Mr. J. Coetzer, 52-year-old Mr. L. Coetzer, 22-year-old Mr. F. Coetzer, and 43-year-old Mrs. H. Coetzer were on their way from Queenstown to Dordrecht when the attack occurred. They were admitted to the Frontier Hospital in Queenstown with head, back, and arm wounds. The driver of the truck, a Mr. Schutte, was hit in the larynx and is being treated at the Universitas Hospital in Bloemfontein.

Law and Order Minister Hernus Kriel said a situation was developing in Transkei which made it life-threatening to move around in that country. He called on people not to visit Transkei for the time being.

PAC Makwetu Says Armed Struggle To Continue

MB2112093092 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 21 Dec 92

[Excerpts] The police have warned motorists not to enter Transkei and say the route between Queenstown and Transkei has been closed. This follows the wounding of five people on the road between Queenstown and Dordrecht. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack on the motorists but it's believed to have been the work of the PAC's [Pan-Africanist Congress] armed wing, APLA [Azanian People's Liberation Army]. [passage omitted].

During an interview yesterday PAC President Clarence Makwetu was asked about the activities of APLA.

[Begin Makwetu recording] We have never denounced or renounced or suspended or discontinued the armed struggle. The armed struggle will continue until a new constitution in this country is in place. [end recording]

Police Reject 'Ludicrous Claim' by PAC

MB1812171192 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1609
GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Pretoria Dec 18 SAPA—The SA Police on Friday [18 December] described as "ludicrous" claims by the Pan-Africanist Congress [PAC] that the "drastic decline" in deaths in the PWV [Pretoria, Witwatersrand, Vereeniging] region was a direct result of activities by its military wing, the Azanian Peoples Liberation Army [APLA].

In a statement the SA Police [SAP] Public Relations Directorate said what made the claim by the PAC west Rand Region Chairman Ntsundeni Madzunya "even more ridiculous" was the attempt to link the recent APLA attacks in the eastern Cape to the decline in violence.

"Only Mr Madzunya can explain how such a parallel can be drawn," the SAP said.

While the PAC was trying to claim credit for a decline in train attacks and other violence in the PWV region, this had in fact opened another avenue of thought.

"Allegations of a 'third force' have been bandied about with both the ANC and the security forces being accused of involvement. However, after the eastern Cape attacks—which APLA boasted of having committed—the train attacks have, according to the PAC, ceased.

"Have the perpetrators not been ordered to cease these attacks so that their masters can gain propaganda mileage therefrom?" the SAP asked.

The statement said any decline in train and other violence could be attributed to increased police action on the one hand and peace initiatives by the peace committee and other concerned organisations and individuals on the other.

"We wish to point out that recently almost 200 people have been arrested and charged for serious offences committed on premises owned by Transnet [public transportation company], including violence on trains."

It said organisations who tried to claim a "military" victory when unarmed civilians were attacked were out of touch with reality and out of step with current peace initiatives.

"The South African Police will deal with this terrorism as we have dealt with terrorism in the past," the statement said.

Kriel Warns on 'Unnecessary' Trips to Transkei

MB2012053692 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2123
GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Pretoria Dec 19 SAPA—Minister of Law and Order Hernus Kriel has reacted "with shock" over the attack on the occupants of a bakkie [pickup truck] on the Queenstown-Dordrecht road on Saturday [19 December]. Five people were admitted to hospital after a bakkie was shot at on Saturday by another bakkie travelling in the same direction. Five people were admitted to hospital with gunshot wounds. "It is evident that a situation is developing in Transkei that makes moving there dangerous."

Mr. Kriel appealed to non-Transkeians not to visit the homeland unnecessarily until such time as the situation had improved. He said the South African Government had, in the meantime, closed the entrances to Transkei at Queenstown and Dordrecht. These entrances would remain closed until the government was assured of the safe passage of South African citizens, Mr. Kriel said.

21 December Review of Current Events, Issues

MB2112132392

[Editorial Report]

SUNDAY TIMES

Political Accountability Missing in Officers' Retirement Issue—President de Klerk's "summary retirement" of 23 South African Defense Force, SADF, officers "is the first decisive move by his administration to rid South Africa of the malevolent influence of the securocrat caste," notes Johannesburg SUNDAY TIMES in English on 20 December in a page 24 editorial. De Klerk's actions "were a vindication of Judge Goldstone and a victory for decent soldiering. Yet, a crucial element is missing—political accountability. The reputation of the army has been damaged, the principle of an impartial military tarnished, the country's esteem further dented. Not a minister has been held accountable, not a word of reprimand heard nor even a question raised by the president. It is a deafening silence."

SUNDAY STAR

Criticism of 'Comfortable Retirement' for 23 SADF Officers—The action taken by President de Klerk against 23 SADF members "removes any remaining doubt that the military has been playing its own political game," points out the page 28 editorial in Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English on 20 December. "This force, admits De Klerk, had intended to derail the Government's constitutional reforms." These steps taken by De Klerk "will undoubtedly boost the Government's dangerously tarnished attempts at constitutional reform," but "a number of questions now have to be answered. Almost three years ago there was some evidence that the SADF had been involved in political murders and other wrongdoing. It was clear to anyone

who cared to look that the SADF's Civil Co-operation Bureau had over-stepped the mark. Its officers did everything they could to undermine a police murder investigation and destroy documents that could have implicated them." "Those guilty cannot be allowed to escape into comfortable retirement. And De Klerk has indicated they won't be. For his own future, as well as that of the country, it's a promise he must keep."

THE STAR

Paper Believes Existence of Third Force—"Thanks mainly to Mr. Justice Goldstone, De Klerk has finally been forced to admit what this newspaper and others have long suspected (and been abused for suggesting)—the presence of a dirty-tricks brigade in the upper reaches of the security establishment whose activities have undermined the peace process," states a page 14 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 21 December. Therefore, "to deny still the existence of a Third Force is to indulge in sophistry." The announcement that a "cadre of senior generals and brigadiers has been given its marching orders" suggests De Klerk was "not in full control of the security forces." "The only consolation to be had from this miserable business is that an honest general has moved swiftly to clean up the mess created by his superiors."

BUSINESS DAY

De Klerk Must Follow Through on SADF Purge—"Confronted with the evidence, President de Klerk had no option but to purge the South African Defense Force of elements found to be sabotaging his reform process," declares a page 4 editorial in Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 21 December. But his own integrity, and the credibility of the armed forces, will not be secure "unless he follows through decisively." "There must be full disclosure of the clandestine operations. Those involved must be blamed, and where offences have been committed the perpetrators must be taken to court." "An ominous sign of the right-wing political threat De Klerk faces as a result of these steps is given in the deplorable reaction of the Conservative Party to his announcement. It shows no concern that Defence Force

officers may have been responsible for crimes and even killings. Instead, it accuses the President of conducting a witch hunt against senior SADF members and says it will close ranks with those whose feelings coincide with the party 'related to land affairs in the present system'. We hope De Klerk is right when he says only a limited number of people and a few units are involved in the undercover operations. If the plot goes deeper, the dangers of a right-wing political conspiracy against government are obvious."

COSATU Proposal for ANC Election Pact—A second editorial believes the Congress of South African trade Union's, COSATU's, proposals for an election pact with the ANC [African National Congress] and the South African Communist Party "would appear to have been influenced more by pragmatic economics than by a bid for political leverage." "COSATU's proposals imply a realisation that people's economic expectations cannot be met immediately in a post- Nat South Africa; that economic empowerment will take years and can be achieved only by growth, not redistribution or confiscation. A COSATU-ANC social pact would probably need something of a cloak of radical rhetoric to persuade people of its revolutionary credentials. Even that must be moderated if foreign investors are not to be scared off."

SOWETAN

De Klerk Treats Army Chiefs With 'Kid Gloves'—Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 21 December in a page 8 editorial believes President de Klerk "is treating the 23 army chiefs implicated in possible murder plots and the attempted sabotage of negotiations with kid gloves." The people who "felt the full brunt of the activities of the third force in the last eight years, are crying out for justice. While the disclosures have left De Klerk 'shocked and disappointed', the country is enraged. If the men he has retired are linked, even remotely, to the outrages described above, they do not deserve the dignity of an early retirement. They must be summarily dismissed from the ranks, locked up in jail while investigations continue and brought before court like the common murderers they could be."

Angola

Savimbi Meets U.S. State Department's Davidow

MB2012062592 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] Mr. Jeffrey Davidow, No. 2 in the State Department's Africa Section, went to Huambo yesterday to search for viable solutions aimed at putting the Angolan peace process back on track. Jeffrey Davidow, who was received by His Excellency Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, president of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA], described his meeting with the UNITA leadership as very fruitful. Our correspondent Lourenco Bento reports:

[Begin recording] [Bento] The talks lasted for several hours. There was a break at 1300 [1200 GMT], and the proceedings resumed at 1445. Asked to comment on the aim of his visit to Huambo, Jeffrey Davidow, who has already returned to Luanda, said that he had come here to exchange views with Dr. Jonas Malheiro Savimbi in order to find a way out to the Angolan peace process. He added: We have had an excellent meeting at which we exchanged important views and [words indistinct].

[Davidow in English, fading into Portuguese translation] My aim was to talk to Dr. Savimbi in order to try to find solutions to the crisis afflicting the Angolan peace process. The meeting was excellent. We exchanged good ideas which we will convey to the government. I think that there are many obstacles, but I believe Angola is heading for peace. That is very important. The most important thing, however, is that the two sides resume the negotiations that began in November. That will happen very soon. My message is that the Angolan people ought to have confidence because they are the only ones who can find a solution to the problem. [end recording]

UNITA To Withdraw Troops From Uige, Negage

MB2012163092 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1600 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] The opposition UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] movement in Angola has agreed to withdraw its troops from two towns in the north of the country as a condition for the resumption of talks with the ruling MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola].

This has been disclosed by the American assistant secretary of state for African affairs [title as heard], Mr. Jeffrey Davidow, who has been having separate meetings with leaders of the two sides.

He said that with the withdrawal of UNITA from Uige and Negage, talks could resume within the next few days.

CCPM Says U.S. 'Has No Concrete Proposals'

MB1812211492 Luanda TPA Television Network in Portuguese 1930 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] The United States has no concrete proposals for helping find a solution to the political problem in Angola. This was noted by the government delegation to the Joint Political and Military Commission [CCPM] after its meeting with Jeffrey Davidow, U.S. deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs, today.

The U.S. delegation arrived at the CCPM headquarters at 1000 [0900 GMT] for a meeting with the government delegation to the CCPM. During a one-hour meeting, the U.S. official examined with the government delegation the present political situation in Angola. Davidow said yesterday that the objective of his visit to Angola was to offer U.S. support for overcoming the existing obstacles, within the framework of the continuation of negotiations and the total implementation of the Bicesse Accords. He also said that in cooperation with the United Nations and other observers, he would try to obtain consensus from both sides to make peace a reality in Angola.

At the end of the meeting today, Higinio Carneiro, spokesman for the meeting, said, however, that the United States did not have any concrete proposals for helping resolve the Angolan problem.

[Begin recording] [Carneiro] The concern of the U.S. delegation, particularly Mr. Jeffrey Davidow, was to try to learn whether we would be in a position to return to the negotiating table without firm steps having been made regarding the withdrawal of troops belonging to the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] in Uige and Negage. The answer is clear: We cannot accept this. We want to see the UN Angola Verification Mission [UNAVEM] carry out its role, as well as to inform the government in due time whether UNITA has really withdrawn or when it will withdraw. In brief, UNAVEM should give firm assurances that would make it possible for the government to adopt other decisions.

[Unidentified reporter] The United States says the government conditions regarding the 11 proposals presented by UNITA are very rigid. Does this mean that we are now closer to war or closer to peace?

[Carneiro] Well, I will not say that we are closer to war or closer to peace. The stands clearly reflect the government responsibility toward the nation, particularly the Angolan people. In other words, the government has responsibilities and will in no way abdicate these responsibilities. We have always alerted the national and international communities to the lack of trust vis-a-vis UNITA. It is difficult to negotiate with UNITA. Whenever it says yes, it fails to fulfill its promises. It is for this reason that the government feels that we should not give alternatives to UNITA, except those that will reflect the

interests of the nation, resolve the problems of the Angolan people, and which will effectively guarantee a lasting peace.

[Reporter] Yesterday, Mr. Davidow told us that he would do all he can to remove Mr. Chivukuvuku from the military hospital. If this happens, what sort of condition will he remain in?

[Carneiro] Mr. Chivukuvuku's condition remains the same. There is no change at all. Now, if Mr. Davidow said that, perhaps he knows what methods he will use to remove Mr. Chivukuvuku from the hospital. At this moment, we know that he is receiving treatment, he is under medical care. What is more, the government has already said and given assurances that it will provide security to all UNITA elements found in Luanda.

[Reporter] Mr. General, there is another district that has been occupied in Bie, (Cunina). Can you confirm this report?

[Carneiro] Well, we have received this information and we are examining it. [end recording]

Luanda Diplomats on U.S. Stand on Angola

MB1912130892 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Commenting on Jeffrey Davidow's visit to Angola, diplomats in Luanda say that he belongs to an outgoing administration whose mission is to show the Republican Party's interest in Angola. The diplomats say the Republicans' attitude is in the context of the so-called new ideas which the diplomats describe as the last word of the Bush administration. The diplomats say there is no need for a new negotiating process for Angola, only the fulfillment of the outstanding clauses of the Bicesse Accords.

Spain 'Violates' Bicesse Accords on War Materiel bat[Voice of the Black Cockerel]

MB2112124492 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1200 GMT 21 Dec 92

[Text] The Kingdom of Spain, the first country of the world openly to violate the Bicesse peace accords, continues to send war materiel to our country. A reliable source in the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FALA] chief of General Staff's Office says the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party [MPLA-PT] has received giant combat helicopters from Spain over the last few days.

The Felipe Gonzalez government had violated Option 3 of the Bicesse Accords, which forbids any supplies of lethal military equipment to the signatories of the Angolan peace accords. Such aid led to the creation of the notorious Riot Police, or ninjas, who not only did not have any reason to exist, but have also proceeded to train their submachine guns on the defenseless people of

Angola. The Riot Police, which functions as a real reserve army for the MPLA-PT, was created and armed by Spain.

The fact that Spain is sending combat helicopters to Angola could mean that that European country is hardening its position toward our young democracy.

UNITA Claims BBC of 'Disinforming' People

MB1812161792 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1200 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Political observers in Huambo Province say massacres in areas controlled by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] are figments of the imagination of the leaders of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA], journalist of the Angolan Nacional Radio [words indistinct] the BBC, Reginaldo Telmo Augusto Silva, and people in the pay of the undemocratic regime of Eduardo dos Santos. According to these observers, it is deplorable that the BBC and other international media should cooperate with the MPLA to disinform people. The observers also note the shameful favoritism of correspondents at the service of the MPLA. They say the correspondents kept silent when the MPLA carried out unprecedented crimes in the history of Angola between the end of October and beginning of November in Luanda, Malange, Cuanza Sul, Dondo, Soyo, as well as on the outskirts of Lubango where it continues to carry out tribal genocide. In conclusion, the observers say UNITA will not harass MPLA militants or follow the MPLA example because it stands for national unity.

Planes Reportedly Bomb Negage 18 Dec

MB1912125492 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 1200 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Three Sukhoi aircraft yesterday bombed the city of Negage, particularly the airport area. Sections of the airport were destroyed and civilians living in the outlying areas killed.

Reliable sources report that similar operations have been planned for the city of Uige and will be carried out in the next few days.

FAA Chief on Regional Commands, Reactions

MB1912131592 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Interview with Angolan Armed Forces General Higino Carneiro by unidentified Radio Angola reporter; place and date not given]

[Text] The Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] chief of General Staff has ordered the regional commands to react to any armed incursions by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA]. General

Higino Carneiro has said those orders are applicable henceforth because UNITA continues moving forces.

[Begin recording] [Carneiro] We have been following all those movements and we have warned on a number of occasions that we will not tolerate further (?violations).

[Reporter] (?Did you convey) such instructions to the FAA regional commanders?

[Carneiro] All FAA troops have been informed about it, so they can carry out the missions they are told to carry out by the Supreme Command.

[Reporter] That means, then, that the FAA troops are ready for action?

[Carneiro] Yes, the FAA troops are ready for action. They continue preparing themselves, so they can defend our territorial integrity, the Angolan people, and the interests of the state. [end recording]

UNITA Alleges MPLA Huambo Offensive 20 Dec

MB1912073592 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0500 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Excerpts] Reliable reports say that a large-scale military offensive is in the offing against the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] in the city of Huambo. Our Huambo correspondent reports that Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party-Labor Party [MPLA-PT], has ordered his forces stationed in Huambo to mount the offensive on 20 December 1992. The operation will include tanks, long-range artillery, and the air force. Defense Minister Pedro Maria Tonha Pedale and Kundi Paihama will lead the offensive. The Huambo riot police have been beefed up. [passage omitted]

A large-scale military offensive is also scheduled to take place in Huila Province at the end of next week. A reliable source with the provincial government, who asked not to be identified, says the offensive is designed to expel UNITA from most of the districts under its jurisdiction and which were voluntarily abandoned by MPLA-PT officials shortly after the fraudulent 29-30 September polls. The military operation will be carried out in Cacola, Quilengues, Caluquembe, Caconda, and Chicomba on 24 and 25 December. The operation is also aimed at expelling UNITA from the city of Lubango.

The MPLA-PT military command in Huila Province intends to employ nearly 1,500 infantry and artillery troops drawn from the People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA], as well as members of the riot police. They will be backed by MiG-23 and Su-25 aircraft, T-55 tanks, BMP-1's, armored vehicles, and guns of various calibers. The units were deployed on 14 December in (Poco), some 35 km northeast of Lubango, as well as in Matala, in Que commune of Chicomba District, and in the provincial capital. Large numbers of demobilized FAPLA personnel will take part

in the operation, wearing Angolan Armed Forces [FAA] uniforms. Civilians have been press-ganged into FAA ranks over the past few weeks in the areas of Matala, Chicomba, Chibia, [names indistinct], and Lubango to take part in the operation.

Plane From Zaire Lands at Uige, Negage 18 Dec

MB1912130392 Luanda Radio Nacional Network in Portuguese 1200 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] A source in the Angolan Armed Forces chief of General Staff's Office reported today that a Hercules C-130 aircraft came in from Zaire and overflowed Uige and Negage at 0700 [0600 GMT] yesterday. The source added that the aforementioned aircraft subsequently landed at both cities, which are still under military occupation by the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA].

Radio Angola also learned from that military source that UNITA has been moving and concentrating large numbers of troops in certain parts of Angola, suggesting impending attacks on the cities of Menongue, Kuito, and Soyo.

Namibian Pilot, German Television Team Released

MB2012171792 Johannesburg Radio South Africa Network in English 1600 GMT 20 Dec 92

[Text] The Namibian pilot and German television team detained in Angola a week ago amid claims of South African relief flights to UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] have been released.

A spokesman for the airline that supplied the charter aircraft said the four men, among them two South Africans—Mr. Sam Groenewald and Mr. Twoboy Nkosi—are expected to return to Namibia early this week. The fate of the aircraft is not known.

*** Agricultural Situation, Prospects Examined**

*** Pessimism Expressed**

93AF0224A Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 10 Nov 92 p 3

[Article by Pereira Santana]

[Text] Agriculture officials do not appear to be very hopeful regarding the possible results of the current crop year, since all the efforts expended are beginning to collapse into failures caused by the unstable situation in this country.

In an interview with JORNAL DE ANGOLA, Carlos Alberto Jaime, known as "Calabeto," the director general of the National Agricultural Machinery Company

(ENAMA), said that because of the current instability in this country, this year will be an "unfortunate" one for farmers.

According to Carlos Alberto, nearly all parts of the farm sector experienced a resumption of vital activities such as the attraction of investments, financing, and donations—in a first phase. The second phase involved the receipt in Angola of ATM [material and technical supplies] and, finally, their distribution.

The director of ENAMA said that approximately \$20 million had been invested with his company alone—in purchases of goods and equipment that included tractors, farm implements, and a few small trucks to support the agribusiness community, almost nationwide.

However, a group of 250 tractors, all accessorized, including a complete kit of plow, harrow, and hitches was purchased this year by ENAMA to prepare for the crop year.

Fifty of those tractors were intended to rebuild ENAMA's capacity, while most of the other 200 were used to help the agribusiness community. Shipment of these material and technical supplies to the provinces began at the end of July and early August, Carlos Alberto declared.

During the crop year that began in July 1992 "we planned to make a very strong start (...), this being the year of the second republic" said Carlos Alberto. That is why, he added, an enormous effort was made at the beginning of the year to concentrate all the material and technical supplies in this country.

This entire process evolved in phases. The first stage was related to the replacement of some obsolete materials at ENAMA. The second phase will be extensive support for all farmers on the basis of a selection of criteria made by the provincial governments.

As Carlos Alberto said, within a little more than two months the bulk of the resources and equipment had been placed in the provinces of Bie, Huambo, Benguela, Malanje, Uije, Kwanza (Norte and Sul)—in short, in the traditional agricultural zones, ready for the start of the period when farmers begin to prepare their land (done during the months of August).

In addition to supplying farm equipment, a program was also launched to help merchants and farmers purchase 200 2.5 ton vehicles. At this moment, more than 150 light trucks have entered this country, and some of them have already been distributed to the indicated provinces, the ENAMA director declared.

"Of course these are not enough," Carlos Alberto remarked. He has been arguing that 200 small trucks "is nothing" for a country that has 18 provinces. However, it has been enough to cover the most intensively farmed zones.

Payment Criteria

According to Carlos Alberto, the goods were paid for mainly with bank credit. He stressed the excellent support received from the Agricultural and Livestock Credit Fund in acquiring tools and equipment.

The official took the opportunity to emphasize the need for prompt creation of an agricultural credit system, especially at this time, when "most of the small farmers lack the financial resources to make the payments, whether short, medium, or long term."

The ENAMA director also said there has been cooperation between the Credit Fund and his company. "We have not had any problems, other than some difficulties in implanting this system on a national scale," he pointed out.

Later Carlos Alberto explained that this banking institution should function in locations "where production is actually taking place and there is a need." According to him, "this measure will gradually become more widespread, with the creation of a network in Huambo and later in Andulo."

At this point, the Agricultural and Livestock Credit Fund is extending three- to five-year lines of credit to the farmers. This system, Carlos Alberto noted, creates a sort of bond between the farmer, the supplier organization, and the bank itself on the one hand. On the other hand, it also gets the farmer in the habit of working with the bank, which makes it easier to carry out its programs or projects in the rural areas.

But, given the prevailing political-military situation, "this crop year is already practically a loss," he declared.

To the director of ENAMA, it is important that "we prepare for a strong effort in cotton for which preparation of the fields begins in December (1992) and January (1993). If everything goes "within the realm of the positive," Carlos Alberto would expect that once the equipment is ready, the people trained, and the brigades formed, "we will have an abundant harvest."

To that end "we hope that the workers will be as willing to work as the politicians are, so that we can reconcile our activities; otherwise, once again we will be faced with an exodus from the countryside," the director emphasized.

Ways and Means

The farm equipment that has been acquired is of U.S. and U.K. origin, because the financing came from a British firm. As for the light trucks, "we consulted the domestic market, i.e., the dealers who represent the various makes, and we opted to purchase three kinds of vehicles—Mazda, Hyundai, and Mitsubishi.

In a brief discussion about the future, Carlos Alberto said that as regards the cereals harvest this crop year "will be very unfortunate, since all these unexpected

developments are coming at a time when the rural workers should be in the fields."

"There are (and will be) many problems. We had predicted that within an atmosphere of peace we would experience an excellent crop year, especially because the weather conditions are good, but in political terms it will be an unfortunate year," he said. But, if the military problems are solved "we will still be in a position to make a strong effort, perhaps, in cotton."

* Huambo Province

93AF0224B Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 12 Nov 92 p 4

[Article by Julio Gomes]

[Text] Huambo (from our local office)—Renewed political and military troubles in Huambo could seriously affect agricultural production this year, owing to the sudden suspension of the monitoring and assistance work done for the countryside by the urban centers. This was the assessment given JORNAL DE ANGOLA by Simao Paquissi, director of the Agriculture and Forestry Department of the provincial office of MINADER (Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development).

At present, the various companies in the province's agricultural sector are prevented from providing support to the farmers; as long as that is true, the farmers in the greenbelt area will not achieve significant results.

The breakdown in production from the greenbelt will result in serious imbalances in the diet of the city-dwellers since most of the cabbage, white potatoes, tomatoes, and onions—among other products—have always been obtained from farms on the periphery.

Although a terrible food crisis is anticipated in the city, it will not be as bad in the country because a reasonable level of production, coupled with precipitation at regular intervals, will yield subsistence-level harvests. Furthermore, Central Plateau farmer is quite familiar with the immediate alternatives entailed in relieving the critical food situation, Paquissi commented.

Rural Zoning

The Department of Agriculture and Forests controls 875 farms [fazendas agricolas] whose operations have not been comprehensively monitored. In Paquissi's opinion, the shortage of vehicles has made it impossible to observe the progress of activities at these farms, especially in terms of production increases, fertilizer use, and payment of taxes.

Inasmuch as rural zoning and establishment of communities in areas that are potentially suited for farming are among its primary functions, the Department of Agriculture and Forestry undertook in December of last year to establish colonies to accommodate demobilized soldiers.

That work, he argued, also entailed the projection of actual needs such as sources of water, soil testing, and a housing infrastructure. In the case of settlements that had already been invaded by the general public it was necessary to find out how many hectares remained. Unfortunately, owing to lack of resources, there was no followup to all this effort.

"All the plans developed locally were sent to national headquarters, but even after they were approved, they produced no effect. Most of the technical experts who had been in the municipalities were withdrawn because of security considerations. Their work would have been very productive if they had been given vehicles when they needed them.

Paquissi also pointed out that a whole series of strangulation factors prevents Huambo Province from reassuming its true status as the nation's granary.

The province of Huambo, where most of the population is scattered throughout the rural areas, has fertile soil and also a good communications network for shipping products to different regions of the country.

According to the charts on agricultural and livestock production, the province's best results ever in 1972; but 1974 saw the start of the dizzying decline in rural products, when military hostilities worsened.

Angolan government supervision and concentration of agricultural production, followed by the creation of production unit groups (AUP) brought with it certain disadvantages. The private farmers disappeared as a consequence, and the isolated peasants became impoverished.

The alternative—establishment of rural worker associations to be given support subsequently—was nothing but a rather inadvisable instrument and ended up destroying traditional small farming activities.

However, the end of the military altercations in 1991 meant that cooler heads prevailed, and the results of the most recent (1991-92) harvest were considered to be the best of recent years.

Fruits

Since time began, Huambo Province has always played a prominent role in citrus fruit production. However, repeated burnings of the orchards, combined with the sudden abandonment of the areas that were being most thoroughly exploited, led to the gradual disappearance of avocados, pears, oranges, and other fruits.

The Department of Agriculture and Forests recently made a study of the real possibilities of reviving the orchards situated 18 km. from the city, but national headquarters has not yet given its opinion of these plans.

The dam near the commune of Calima, about 60 km from the city of Huambo, is in danger of collapsing because the sluices, not having been maintained for

several years, are clogged up. In July the situation became worse and, although the National Bureau of Farm Hydraulics was alerted, no action has been taken yet. Given the heavy rainfall, the dam is no longer going to be able to hold back the enormous volume of water and poses a serious threat to the lives of the local people—and that's not all—commented Simao Paquissi. The Calima dam was once conceived as a means of assisting dairy farmers by irrigating pastures and providing watering holes for animals. It was also intended to supply water by gravity flow to several communes in Huambo Province.

* Huila Province

93AF0224C Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 12 Nov 92 p 4

[Article by Lubango correspondent Jose Fucato]

[Text] Lubango (from our local office)—Subsistence agriculture has been the distinguishing feature in the rural parts of Huila Province in recent years. The rains arrived late, and no one knows whether they will return in force or respect the September-December tradition.

In conversations with Abel Hundi Andre, the man responsible for the Agrarian Development Station (EDA) for municipalities in eastern Huila, we heard him say that the success of the current crop year is in danger because yields have not exceeded 300 kg per hectare.

The rains arrived late; they should have started hitting the earth in the first days of September. Instead, they did fell only on the 7th of that month and right now, a drought prevails in the Huila region.

Marketing in the countryside lost its impetus because of the inadequate ability to respond to the farmers' basic wants, such as blankets, scythes, textiles, plows, and other items. The merchants in the East took advantage of this factor to sell essential products at speculative prices. The EDA official believes that 75 percent of last year's farm production is going into the provinces that border those municipalities, places such as "Benguela, Huambo, and Bie," destined for the residents of the East region. The peasants are still producing corn, millet, and feed sorghum, but only for their own use.

In the regions of Chibia and Humpata, municipalities that have strong agricultural traditions, the peasants are concerned about the delays in the distribution and sale of seeds to get the 1992/93 crop year started.

In a dialogue between peasants and JORNAL DE ANGOLA, the former expressed an interest in purchasing the seeds for the next crop year. All of them are worried about the delays with the seeds and the rains which, they say, are not normal.

Antonio Faustino Miranda, regional director of Angosementes in Huila, insisted that delays in distribution of seeds to the rural residents are due to the fact that the economic agents who are authorized for this purpose

have not yet picked up the 650 tons of seed corn and three tons of vegetable seeds that are in the Lubango warehouses.

The official said his company is waiting not only for those quantities, but for the arrival of 450 more tons of seed corn and 350 of beans from Zimbabwe, to meet the farming needs in all the municipalities of Huila Province.

Antonio Miranda confided to us that it is not anticipated that Empresa de Distribuicao do Sul de Angola [Southern Angola Distribution Company] will sell 5,865 tons of assorted seeds, including corn, sorghum, millet, feed sorghum, beans, and vegetables.

Throughout Huila Province the verb "okulima" is used to mean "cultivating the land." The work is done with animal-drawn equipment, and the cereals grown are corn or millet and—in the other cases—feed sorghum and dry beans.

Cereals, beans, and corn are planted during the first rains at the end of October and November. In the warmer soils, millet can go into the ground a little later. In good years, the harvest starts in June and continues until August.

It is widely recognized that cereals supply the basic food for the entire province and that the other crops play a secondary role. So it is on one or more harvests that the physical welfare of these people depends, and this restricts their economic maneuvering ability to a rather small sphere.

Formerly this was a problem that at times assumed a really tragic aspect and not infrequently translated into a matter of life or death for a reasonably high percentage of citizens.

Cattle Raising in Huila

Cattle are the most avidly sought form of wealth among Huila peasants, especially among the Gambo, Muquipungo, Quilengue, and Muila. These people devote themselves to the job of herdsman with fervor and persistence and exhibit a genuine passion for this work.

This does not mean that everyone attains the desired goal with the same degree of success. As is true everywhere, here too one must distinguish between large, medium, and small-scale proprietors. These are differences that derive primarily from regional differences, since not all areas offer the same facilities for this kind of economic activity.

It is not easy to estimate the average number of head of cattle each large-scale cattleman possesses. One can, however, safely say that to merit this ranking he should probably be able to boast of having 300 or more cattle, while at least 100 head would make him eligible for membership in the second category.

When the cattle are sent out to pasture, they are divided into herds of about 40 head. Anyone who has a larger number of cattle entrusts the surplus to a poorer pasture area.

The most arduous work the herdsman and the owner of the cattle himself must do is to take the herds into the mountains and remain with them the entire time, as long as the welfare of the animals requires it. This often means absences from "home" and family for months on end. Among the Mungambo, the entire family leaves its usual residence and travels with the cattle. Each ethnic group, or part of same, has its traditional sites. These are genuine refuges for the animals during the worst months of the year.

The pastoral life in this region is associated with a certain primitive bucolic poetry. The best known works, therefore, can be gathered—as one would expect—among the professional "cattle fatteners of the jungle."

* Angosementes Director

93AF0224D Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in
Portuguese 13 Nov 92 p 4

[Article by Pereira Santana]

[Text] The Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MINADER) had believed that highly satisfactory results would be attained during the current crop year. This prediction was based on the assumption that "there is peace, and so there will be stability." The seeds were supposed to reach the rural areas more easily than in previous years, so that favorable surpluses would be obtained. The necessary conditions had been created to achieve this goal. "But, unfortunately, that did not happen," the director general of Angosementes, Fernando Leao, explained to us. During an interview with this newspaper, the official explained in detail the problems his business sector is experiencing and talked about the outlook for the near future.

It is now certain that the dimming of this whole set of hopes by the threat of war is beginning to "frustrate" the various sectors of the agricultural economy. Given the investments made, people expected only good results. But things will not turn out that way.

"Standing in the midst of all this, I feel a tremendous sadness," Leao said, regretfully. He had commented that with peace "we had been thinking that it would be possible to begin to solve the food problem via production (...) but we find that, after all, everything has regressed. There is still instability and insecurity in the rural areas."

According to the director of Angosementes, a company that supplies the peasants and farmers with the widest variety and diversity of seeds, the instability and insecurity had an immediate impact on the peasant population. "They are the ones who suffer the most, because they have to move away from the areas where they live, and

go to others where they will be safer. Then, very often, food supplies and other goods necessary for survival do not reach them," he pointed out.

He said that if there is stability "within a relatively short period of time, it will be by dint of the efforts of those peasants that the population's food problem will be solved—through the production of corn, manioc, dry beans, and other essential food crops."

Fernando Leao said it is this effort that MINADER has tried to pursue, in order to "create the conditions for an increase in food production at the national level, so that surpluses are achieved that can be channeled to other areas where production conditions are poor, and especially, so that imports can decline."

The official said that peace is the vital factor for doing serious work in rural areas. "That was the hope that we had when we threw ourselves into direct production and organized the network of private merchants—who work with us—as agents not only in the sale of the most important seeds, but also in gathering them for treatment and subsequent redistribution," he explained.

Current Crop Year

Angosementes invested \$2 million in purchases of various kinds of seeds for the present crop year. In terms of volume, about 57 tons of vegetable [seeds], 1,900 of seed corn, 680 of dry beans, 250 tons of sorghum, and a like quantity of millet were purchased.

A large portion of these products came from Zimbabwe and South Africa, except for the vegetables [seeds], which were purchased from European countries such as Holland, France, Denmark, and Portugal.

The difficulty of shipping the products to remote areas, the prevailing situation of instability, as well as price increases and other conditioning factors have led to the "weak" movement of seeds out of the warehouses.

The director of Angosementes discussed in detail his company's plans for the crop year that started about four months ago. He said they had counted on importing about 13,000 tons of [seed] corn (the largest volume in the past seven years), but for several reasons it was not possible to bring in that much, since it was to come from southern Africa, a region seriously affected by the drought.

This led to the reduction in the expected quantity, and also forced the development of a new plan for importing, calling for 2,300 tons of [seed] corn. "In fact, we only managed to arrange for 1,900 tons," Leao said.

The mentioned quantities (13,000 tons) had included not only the tonnage acquired by the government, but also amounts donated by the EEC and other, nongovernmental organizations. According to Leao, not even those organizations were able to acquire the planned quantities of seeds from overseas sources.

The agriculture official also commented that his company had also expected to resort to internal marketing of fairly significant amounts but that "unfortunately, this was not possible for various reasons, such as supplies to the rural areas and the non-processing of barter deals with the countryside."

Despite that, the warehouses operated by Angosementes regional offices have surpluses. "What is happening is that product has not moved out to the extent we would have wished," the company director noted. He added that the situation of instability and the relative increase in the prices are the principal factors in the weak competition.

Prices

According to the new Angosementes price list, a kilogram of imported seed corn is sold for Nkz[new kwanzas]1,104.50, while the domestic equivalent costs Nkz 489.50. As for beans, the imported product is listed at Nkz 1,400 and the domestic product is sold for Nkz 624.

In Fernando Leao's opinion, seeds "are not expensive," although he acknowledges that prices have risen due to the devaluation of the domestic currency (the Kwanza), and because the products are imported.

All that, the official noted, "shocks (...) the farmer, who must lay out a certain sum to purchase a kilogram of seed corn at a price that may lead him to use less of it."

The Angosementes director also said that the low level of demand for seeds is due to the fact that the peasants achieved normal production levels, since the crop year just ended was fairly reasonable. Therefore, it is easy for them to set aside seeds from their own production instead of buying them. "At any rate, we have seeds on hand in the warehouses that are bound to move out, depending on the demand from the public," Leao said.

This year, Angosementes started out with three production companies, based in Lubango (Huila), and in Malanje and Caala (Huambo). Thus it has joined with private farmers to develop certain areas of business, especially the most important ones.

Although there have been difficulties getting the companies started, the objective is "to increase production plans each year and achieve excellent levels," the official said.

Parallel to the production program, Angosementes has a marketing program linked with the surplus of peasant production. It involves using the commercial agents who are in the rural areas to resell the seeds and also to purchase the production surpluses and channel them through this company for treatment and eventual redistribution.

Therefore, the production aspect has gotten off the ground, but not as well as could be wished; meanwhile,

the marketing effort did not have the expected impact, since the appropriate supplies did not reach the rural areas, Leao explained.

The director also said that the prices charged by the peasants, particularly for seed corn, caused the product to "escape" the regular marketing circles and "flee" to the market where prices were beginning to become exorbitant.

By way of example, Leao explained: "(...) today the peasant is selling a kilo of seed corn (out there in the production zone) for Nkz 500 (...). We could not buy at that price (...) since shipping from the production zones, warehousing, cleaning, treatment with fertilizers, and bagging all add to the cost of the product, (...) so we could not buy at 500 and resell at Nkz 480."

More Than 8,000 Tons Sold

More than 8,548 tons of various kinds of seed were sold by Angosementes during the crop year just ended. This volume may increase [this year], since "we still have the second planting period, i.e., January and February 1993, ahead of us," Fernando Leao emphasized.

In terms of overall figures, a fairly significant quantity of seeds was distributed during the 1991/92 crop year, which had a special impact on the corn crop, for which about 5,400 tons were distributed. Some 1,700 tons of seed potatoes were distributed, along with seeds for other crops.

Comparing the distributions made during the past seven years (starting in 1985) relatively more was distributed last year—12,600 tons of various seeds.

One of the concerns raised by the "seed man" relates to the difficulties of supplying products to the provinces in the East, due to the distances involved and the precarious condition of the roads.

Mozambique

Fifth Session of Republic's Assembly Ends 19 Dec

MB1912191792 Maputo Radio Mozambique Network
in Portuguese 1730 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] The fifth session of the Assembly of the Republic, which began on 11 December, ended in Maputo early this afternoon. Marcelino dos Santos, Assembly of the Republic chairman, spoke at the closing session.

[Begin Dos Santos recording] During the session the Assembly of the Republic examined and approved the following legal instruments: the law which creates the police of the Republic of Mozambique; the law on rights, duties, and privileges of the president of the republic; the law on the establishment, management, and exploration of telecommunication services' infrastructures; the law approving the general State budget; as well as a motion of praise for the Council of Ministers. [end recording]

1993 Budget Approved

MB1912130592 Maputo Radio Maputo in English 1100 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Excerpts] Mozambique's parliament has approved the 1993 State Budget which includes an increase in the defense expenditure despite the fact that the peace agreement, ending 16 years of war, appears to be holding. The government will spend 38 percent of next year's current expenditure on defense and security, compared with 34 percent in 1992. [passage omitted]

Current expenditure as a whole in next year's budget will be \$310 million, and there is also an investment budget of about \$(?253) million. State income from taxes, customs duties, and other internal sources is estimated at about \$267 million. There will, therefore, be a total budget deficit of about \$295 million. This can only be covered by foreign grants and credits.

Finance Minister Eneas Comiche told parliament that next year's projected income covers only 86 percent of current expenditures and 48 percent of total expenditures. He said the country has no capacity to undertake any investment at all, except with recourse to foreign aid.

The Mozambican parliament has also been debating the question of the UN force to be sent to Mozambique to help implement the peace agreement between the government and the Mozambique National Resistance. Several deputies suggested that the force might undermine the country's sovereignty.

Foreign Minister Pascoal Mocumbi replied that the UN role was envisaged in the peace agreement and that the Assembly had voted unanimously to ratify the agreement in October. He said it was too late now to raise questions of sovereignty.

One deputy, former Security Minister Sergio Vieira protested that in October the deputies had not been informed that there were voting for a force as large as 8,000 men, the figure now given by the United Nations. Another deputy, Elias Sigauke, called for a reduction in the size of the UN force, and expressed deep suspicion over the fact that Portugal, the former colonial power, will supply some of the troops.

Foreign Minister Mocumbi replied that the UN was not coming to Mozambique at its own initiative, but has been invited by the Mozambican Government with the full knowledge of parliament.

UN's Ajello Discusses Peace Process

MB2112102592 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 20 Dec 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] There is renewed optimism about the peace process in Mozambique, following the UN Security Council decision on Wednesday [16 December] to send

over 7,000 troops and staff to monitor the cease-fire and elections. Aldo Ajello, who is the UN special representative in Mozambique, had argued the case for a big UN presence at last week's meeting in New York. The existing peace plan is already behind schedule. The Mozambique Liberation Front [Frelimo] and Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] armies should have begun heading to assembly points back on 15 October. In Maputo, Dan Isaacs asked Aldo Ajello when this process would now start.

[Begin recording] [Ajello] Maybe even this month, or the beginning of next month. We can try to identify some of the 49 (?assembly) areas that are more suitable, from a logistical point of view, for starting the operation, and even if the entire contingent of UN observers will not be in place, we can start the movement of troops, and the concentration of troops.

[Isaacs] Now, I am not quite clear why the assembly points were not identified on 15 October, and why a lot of this did not happen then, rather than this shaky two-month period in which people were wondering what on earth is happening, and why is the UN waiting? What was the delay?

[Ajello] Well, we could not do anything without a mandate. Without the approval of the report of the secretary general, we did not have any budget. The only budget here was for me, for my assistant, and for 25 military observers. We have done a lot of work, but I do not think that we could have done the concentration of troops, and demobilization with 27 people.

[Isaacs] [Words indistinct] you went off to New York, to the Security Council, to (?present) the case of Mozambique, you said you would come back with a new revised timetable for the political process, the demobilization process, and the elections. Do you now have that? Does it still state that by 4 October, or 15 October 1993 they will have had elections?

[Ajello] I have done it. I have this new timetable. I have already given (?it) to the two parties, and actually the new timetable had been produced by us here in Maputo, before my departure to New York, so Renamo and the government they know the new timetable. We even discussed it at one of the next [as heard] meetings of the Supervision and Control Commission [CSC]. It is a one-year timetable and, of course, we have two months' delay. What we will try, during the period between now and 31 October, is to try to catch up with this delay.

[Isaacs] What about one big stumbling block still in the peace process: That is Afonso Dhlakama, the Renamo leader, coming to live in Maputo. Have you heard anything about that? Have you been approached about that yet?

[Ajello] Well, I have discussed this question with Dhlakama himself during my last visit to him, which took place the day before my departure to New York, and we had agreed that the problem was just to provide

him with housing, and all the facilities that were necessary for him to be here, and that he was thinking about being here before the end of the year. [end recording]

Radio To Introduce Two Vernacular Services

*MB2012151392 Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 17
Dec 92 p 12*

[Excerpts] Radio Mozambique Director General Manuel Tome has told our correspondent that as of next year the service will broadcast in Makua and Lomue, languages spoken in several provinces of central and northern Mozambique. That will bring the number of national languages in which Radio Mozambique operates to 16.

Manuel Tome, who was speaking on the fringe activities of the service's Consultative Council meeting, said that every effort is being made to fulfill that goal, noting that

the two languages will be broadcast from Radio Mozambique's studios in Beira (Makua) and Zambezia (Lomue).

Manuel Tome said that renovation work at the Zambezia Provincial Studios are scheduled to begin in March or April 1993. As in other provinces, the Zambezia Provincial Studios operates with great deficiencies in view of the obsolete equipment. [passage omitted]

The project will be financed by UNICEF, which has agreed to improve the activities of the radio service.

Manuel Tome said that in addition to the Zambezia service, the Niassa, Tete, Manica, and Inhambane services operate under very poor conditions. He said that although Radio Mozambique is experiencing serious equipment problems, the service has been able to cover 30 to 40 percent of the country. [passage omitted]

Guinea

UN Envoy Meets Conte, Liberian Crisis Discussed

AB1712154592 Paris AFP in French 1007 GMT 17 Dec 92

[Text] Conakry, 17 Dec (AFP)—The UN special envoy to Liberia, Mr. Trevor Gordon-Somers, met President Lansana Conte of Guinea on 16 December. They discussed latest developments in the Liberian situation. Mr. Gordon-Somers, who has just ended a 10-day visit to Liberia, disclosed that "the discussion focused on solving the Liberian crisis. The UN has authorized the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] to carry out this initiative."

Mr. Gordon-Somers stressed that the "Liberian people are very pleased with the presence of soldiers of the ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group," to which Guinea belongs. Mr. Gordon-Somers reaffirmed that he was still hopeful that peace would be restored in Liberia, where he held long discussions with Professor Amos Sawyer, head of the interim government, and Charles Taylor, leader of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia, as well as all the sides involved in the Liberian conflict.

Guinea Neutral in Conflict

AB1812163292 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English 0900 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] The Guinean president, Lansana Conte, says his government remains neutral in the Liberian conflict, despite (its recent) involvement in the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] peace initiative. Radio France Internationale monitored in Monrovia yesterday quoted President Conte as telling the visiting UN special representative to Liberia, Mr. Trevor Gordon-Somers, in Conakry, on Wednesday [16 December], that his country Guinea does not support either [the] United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia [ULIMO] or any other fighting group in the present Liberian crisis.

Instead, President Conte noted, Guinea would do all in its power to support the ECOWAS peace plan for Liberia, especially the Yamoussoukro IV Accord, which calls for a total disarmament and encampment of all warring factions in Liberia, followed by free and fair general elections. The Guinean leader, however, blamed the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] of rebel leader Charles Taylor for being responsible for the carnage and the current stalemate in the peace process.

For his part, Mr. Gordon-Somers informed President Lansana Conte that the United Nations (would send) a peace-keeping force into Liberia as soon as possible. The UN envoy said his recent visit to Monrovia and NPFL-held areas showed that Liberians are longing for lasting peace.

Elections Announced for 1993

AB2012145592 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French 1830 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] Interior and Security Minister Rene Alseny Gomez announced that presidential and legislative elections will be held next year in Guinea. He did not, however, give the date or the time for the elections.

Gomez announced this at a meeting today in Conakry with 3,000 elected municipal counselors of the Guinean capital. [sentence as heard] Gomez did explain to them the preelectoral period requirements.

Ivory Coast

Government Steps To Implement ECOWAS Resolutions Listed

AB2012193992 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French 18 Dec 92 p 7

[Article by Dro Diomande]

[Text] The Ivorian Government is taking steps to implement the resolutions adopted when the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS] was created in 1975. To this end, special bureaus will be opened in Abidjan to facilitate immigration procedures for ECOWAS member country nationals. The Ivory Coast plans to print travel books for ECOWAS nationals. As for the policy of free trade, measures will be taken to reduce to a minimum the procedures for importing products from other ECOWAS states to the Ivory Coast. These various measures were announced at a seminar held in Abidjan from 15 to 16 December on liberalizing trade with ECOWAS member states.

The seminar, organized for public, semipublic sectors, and financial backers of the subregion, was aimed at enlightening participants on how ECOWAS' resolutions have been implemented from day one. Given that the first mission assigned to ECOWAS was to build a more integrated and viable economic space in which people, goods, and services could circulate freely, one is forced to conclude, along with Minister Duncan [minister delegate to the prime minister in charge of finance, economy, commerce, and planning] that the institution has not delivered all the expected results. Most of the resolutions made at the beginning remained locked up in office drawers.

For Mr. Soro, an Ivorian financial backer, the problems facing ECOWAS lie mainly in the dissemination of information. "Often, when we face a particular problem, we do not know who to contact. In general, the officials in charge of giving us information do not know what to tell us. For example, some customs officials do not know the limits and extent of their own duties.

The Abidjan seminar was therefore very useful if only for the organizer's objectives.

Nigeria

Sudan Asked To Seek African Solution to Crisis

AB1712102792 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Dec 92

[Text] Nigeria has appealed to the parties involved in the Sudanese crisis to seek African solution to avoid making the matter an international conflict. The minister of internal affairs and chairman of the Sudan peace talks, Dr. Tunji Olagunji, made the appeal today in Abuja while briefing newsmen on Nigeria's current efforts in the Sudanese conflict.

He blamed the protracted war in Sudan on intraparty squabbles within the warring factions as well as the parties' insistence on seeking solutions through the battlefield. Dr. Olagunji gave an assurance that Nigeria was willing to play her part in accelerating the peace process as soon as both parties were prepared to engage in a meaningful dialogue.

Paper Reports Clampdown on Human Rights Groups

AB1412125592 Lagos Voice of Nigeria in English 1030 GMT 14 Dec 92

[From the press review]

[Text] The PUNCH reports that the Federal Government has clamped down on human rights groups and that such groups cannot seek redress in the courts. It further says all government activities under the transition program that may threaten the fundamental rights of Nigerians cannot be contested in the court.

The PUNCH reports the government is backing itself with three decrees on the transition to civil rule. It also says the Armed Forces Ruling Council may amend Decree 53 to give the National Assembly wider powers to pilot the nation's affairs and allow the house to perform its constitutional functions.

Commentary Praises Operation Restore Hope

AB1712103192 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 1800 GMT 16 Dec 92

[Pat Chikwueze commentary]

[Text] Classical thoughts in ancient Greek defined tragedy as the result of the collision between aspirations. The situation in Somalia is in many ways a tragedy. But unlike Greek mythology where the characters are fictitious and imaginary, those who have suffered untold hardship and deprivation in Somalia are helpless but peace-loving human beings. Somalia is the latest illustration of what inordinate and selfish ambition of a few power seekers has been causing in many African nations.

The struggle for political power in that country has been allowed to degenerate into a national calamity. The two major rivals, General Farah Aidid and Mahdi Mohamed

as well as their factions have, in their rabid competition for power and selfish interests, unleashed a reign of terror, anguish, death, and famine on the people. What is happening in Somalia, though pathetic, is correlated.

For over two years now, civil strife and partisan warfare have gradually crippled social life in the land. The nation's work force has virtually collapsed while many Somalis have fled into refugee camps in Kenya and Ethiopia. The war of attrition, coupled with the large scale physical combat between the various political factions, has brought the current political [word indistinct] and state of anarchy in Somalia.

Some political observers have remarked that for all practical purposes, the state of Somalia is dead. Although that may be an overstatement, the fact is that there is a limit to what a developing nation can take and still stay afloat. Uganda, Ethiopia, Sudan, and Liberia can pass as examples of such African states that have been through similar circumstances in the past.

Even as these countries are reeling from the wounds of their fratricidal wars, the scars they carry portray eloquently the folly of human aggrandizement.

The decision of the Security Council of the United Nations to intervene in the Somali quagmire under what is called Operation Restore Hope is a humanitarian gesture. Resolution 749, adopted recently by the Council, has allowed the UN to deploy peacekeeping forces to the country. The forces, which landed last week in Somalia, have a mandate to ensure that the relief materials contributed by the international community for the needy people of Somalia, actually reach them.

The forces, comprising primarily of about 30,000 marines from the United States and about 5,000 from France, are expected to assist in checking the bandits who have been ruling the countryside and harassing relief workers and defenseless Somalis.

In view of the extent of devastation and subversion in Somalia, every assistance is desirable. The other developed nations, such as Italy and Australia, which have pledged to contribute forces to the UN intervention in Somalia, should act promptly.

Somalis need to be reassured that they are not a forgotten people and that the world cares about their plight. The fact that all the 15 members of the UN Security Council voted in support of the deployment of peacekeeping forces to the troubled area is gratifying. It is a clear indication that Operation Restore Hope is not born out of any selfish interest of the world's major powers.

However, the experience of similar interventions in the past in certain African nations dictates the need for caution this time around. The mandate of the international force in Somalia should be enlarged to include the disarming of all the warring factions and armed bandits.

The UN should institute a framework to design a constitutional arrangement for the people before the withdrawal of its forces from this territory.

Somalia has suffered enough pain and bloodshed. What should concern peace-loving members of the international community is the restoration of peace, law, and order to that troubled land. Operation Restore Hope must be allowed to succeed.

Disqualified Presidential Aspirant Protests Ban

AB1812165992 Paris AFP in English 0050 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Text] Lagos, Dec 17 (AFP)—A presidential aspirant disqualified from running for office by the military following September's botched nationwide party primaries challenged his ban Thursday, [17 December] describing it as indiscriminate.

"I have decided to reject the alleged infringements of Decree 37 of 1992, and the disqualification based on those unspecified and unproved allegations of electoral malpractices," Chief Olu Falae, one of the two leading presidential aspirants who ran on the ticket of the Social Democratic Party, told a news conference.

In a national broadcast November 17, head of state General Ibrahim Babangida announced that the Armed Forces Ruling Council (AFRC), the nation's highest decision-making body, had disqualified all 23 presidential aspirants of the two approved political parties from further participation in the transition to civilian rule. The elections of September 12, 19 and 26 were characterised by rigging and other grave electoral malpractices, contrary to the decree on electoral conduct, the government said.

"In stating that I had infringed sections of the decree, Mr. President had accused me of committing a crime, and by banning me from participating in politics and elections during the transition period he had pronounced a verdict of 'guilty' without any specific allegations made against me and without any opportunity to defend myself," Chief Falae said.

Chief Falae, a former minister of finance under Babangida, denied that he committed any electoral offence, arguing that he had been a foremost campaigner for free and fair elections in the country.

Senate Chief Says No Mandate To Probe Regime

AB2112105992 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network in English 0600 GMT 21 Dec 92

[Text] The president of the Senate, Dr. Iyochia Ayu, has said that the National Assembly will not probe the present administration. He stated this at a news conference in Makurdi. Dr. Ayu said that members of the National Assembly had no mandate to subject the present leadership to any inquiry. He however stated that the assembly would invite chief executives of federal ministries to clear issues brought before them. Senator Ayu commended journalists for championing the course

of accountability in the country. He urged all Nigerians to cooperate for the successful implementation of the transition program.

Senegal

Armed Men Reportedly Kill Two Soldiers 11 Dec

AB1512153892 Paris AFP in English 0232 GMT 15 Dec 92

[Text] Dakar, Dec 14 (AFP)—Two soldiers have been killed by armed men in Casamance, the southern region of Senegal, an informed source said here. The assailants, presumed to be members of a regional secessionist movement, ambushed the Senegalese sergeant and corporal as they were driving towards the Cap Skirring tourist complex on Friday [11 December] night, the source said.

Minister of Tourism Jacques Baudin said Saturday [12 December] that the Club Mediterranee and neighbouring hotels in Casamance had decided to remain closed until October 1993 because of the security situation.

A Casamance secessionist movement has been fighting the government since 1982. In the past three months its guerrillas have claimed responsibility for three attacks, killing a total of 54 people.

Sierra Leone

Army Suffers 'Reverse;' Koidu Falls

AB1712210092 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 17 Dec 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Once again there are reports of a severe reverse for the Sierra Leone Army in the Kono District in the east of the country. For some time soldiers have been battling with Foday Sankoh's rebels around the town of Koidu. It has already changed hands at least once, and now reports say that the rebels have recaptured it. Our correspondent, Matthew Tostevin, has been trying to get up to Koidu. He is now back in Freetown, and on the line Robin White asked him if it was clear that Koidu was definitely in rebel hands.

[Begin recording] [Tostevin] As far as anyone has been able to tell me, Koidu town is in the hands of the rebels. The latest fighting seem to have been taking place around the (Sewe Bridge), which is some 25 miles from Koidu town on the road coming to Freetown and Makeni.

[White] You have just been up toward the war front. How close were you able to get?

[Tostevin] I was able to get to the village of Masingbe, which is some 15 miles from the (Sewe Bridge), where the latest fighting has been going on. That is where I was turned back by the soldiers and told that I should not come any further.

[White] What explanation did they give?

[Tostevin] They just said that I should not go any further. I spoke to brigade commander, Colonel (Jorlie), and he said that at this stage people, other than soldiers—military personnel—were not permitted to go to that area.

[White] Now, I gather that a lot of people have been fleeing Koidu town, civilians?

[Tostevin] There is a lot of people on the road. I mean there is a constant stream of people coming to Masingbe, most of them heading for Makeni or Freetown, and they in drips and draps with what they can carry.

[White] Why is that the Sierra Leone Army appears to be doing so badly, or the rebels so well?

[Tostevin] Well, it is hard to tell exactly what happened down in Koidu. I mean, the local people say that the soldiers left the town without giving them much warning, that there was a heavy attack by the rebels. A lot of the local people as well accused the soldiers of looting, which was backed up by the resident minister in the Northern Province, Major Fallah Sewa. He said he had a large number of goods which he had confiscated from soldiers who were in the process of selling them or trying to get them out of the area.

[White] So the government soldiers just opted and went taking what they could with them?

[Tostevin] Well, I imagine they put up a bit of resistance as well. There were certainly some resistance put up by a Major Foday, who is down at Koidu at the time of the attack and withdrew some distance and was there for some days, fighting on his own, as it were, with his men before he himself was wounded and had to retreat.

[White] Would you imagine that the Army is going to make an attempt to retake Koidu pretty soon or have they abandoned it?

[Tostevin] Well, obviously, they are not going to give out any information on what their plans would be. I certainly expect them to attempt to before very long. And the operation would quite possibly be successful.

[White] Have you any idea how much of Sierra Leone the rebels now control or have some kind of control over?

[Tostevin] In percentage terms it is not a very large area, in terms of the area. But economically, it is the most important area of the country. Kailahun District, which they have been controlling for over a year, is the main produce producing area—cocoa and coffee, and so on. And Kono is the main diamond producing district. The diamond, is of course, the major source of hard currency for importing goods into the country. So, obviously the importation of goods is going to suffer.

[White] As this war goes on, is Sierra Leone getting any help from outside, for instance, from the Nigerian?

[Tostevin] Well, on the ground, the Nigerians are not giving any assistance. But it appears that there have been some bombardments, some air raids, which have been carried over Koidu. The displaced people have reported bombs dropping on Koidu town; people being very frightened by the bombs dropping, and a number of casualties. As well as the Guineans, who are also providing some support, particularly artillery wise.

[White] Where are these Nigerian planes taking off from?

[Tostevin] I presume that they are taking off from Lungi Airport, which is where ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] fighters are based, and is not far from Freetown.

[White] From the civilians you spoke to, what do they feel about it? Do they have any time at all for the rebels?

[Tostevin] Most civilians you speak to do not have time for the rebels. In fact, I spoke to none, and I do not believe it is just like they were afraid of them. But the amount of destruction, damage to property and life that the war had caused, it is not likely that there is going to be great deal of support for them in the country. [end recording]

Nigerian Planes Reportedly Raid Rebel Positions

*AB1812191592 London BBC World Service in English
1705 GMT 18 Dec 92*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] It seems the ECOMOG [ECOWAS Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] force, which is caught up in the war in Liberia against Charles Taylor's NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia], may be extending its operations into Sierra Leone. With Sierra Leone's Army once again suffering reverses in the war against Foday Sankoh's RUF [Revolutionary United Front] rebels in Kono District in the east of the country, there have been reports of Nigerian jets launching raids on rebel targets from the ECOMOG base near Freetown. That has led to speculation that Captain Strasser's government might ask ECOMOG to give even more help to the Sierra Leone Army. And what better time than a meeting of the chiefs of staff of ECOMOG armies in Freetown yesterday? When it ended, the ECOWAS secretary general, Dr. Abass Bundu, held a press conference. Victor Silver was there and he faxed this report:

Dr. Abass Bundu told the press last night that Sierra Leone's chief of staff, Brigadier Jusu Gattoh, had made a formal request for ECOMOG operations to be extended into Sierra Leone while it fights Foday Sankoh's RUF rebels and NPFL elements. It was agreed that this request should be brought to the attention of ECOWAS member states as soon as possible. Dr. Bundu made a passionate appeal to Foday Sankoh to declare what he called a genuine cease-fire as time was fast running out for him and his backer, Charles Taylor. He said that ECOWAS was willing to provide all the necessary

facilities for a negotiated settlement and reconciliation between Foday Sankoh and the Sierra Leone Government.

This offer from the ECOWAS secretary general himself is being interpreted by observers here to mean that Foday Sankoh is now being given a peaceful and democratic option which, if rejected, would leave ECOWAS member states with no other alternative but the military option. This morning, I asked Sierra Leone's chief of staff, Jusu Gottoh, exactly what kind of help he would like to get from ECOMOG and whether he would like to see ECOMOG ground troops in Sierra Leone. He said that apart from the type of operations ECOMOG is engaged in Liberia, he would also like help in areas such as intelligence gathering and the cutting of rebel supply lines.

The meeting was attended by the chiefs of staff of five of the seven states participating in ECOMOG. There were no officials from Senegal and The Gambia, which was attributed to flight problems.

ECOWAS Envoy Urges Cease-Fire

AB1912184792 Freetown SLBS Radio in English 0700 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Text] The executive secretary of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS], Dr. Abass Bundu, said that if Foday Sankoh is a true patriot who means well, he should consider the pain he faces and embark on installing a genuine cease-fire. Speaking at Thursday's [17 December] press briefing at the conference hall of the Bintumani Hotel, Dr. Abass Bundu maintained that since the supply lines from Charles Taylor to Foday Sankoh had been threatened, Sankoh should consider it necessary to allow a cease-fire.

According to Dr. Bundu, a cease-fire will create an environment to negotiate a settlement and bring the war to an early end. Against this background, the ECOWAS secretary said that serious consideration will be given to the request made by this country, that is for ECOMOG [ECOWAS Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] operations to be extended into Sierra Leone in order to avert further destruction.

On ECOMOG itself, Dr. Abass Bundu disclosed that at the last meeting of chiefs of staff of member states, the field commanders of the forces were commended for the advances made on the ground. He restated the three main objectives of ECOMOG as being mandated to defend itself and restore safe haven status to Monrovia and to create an atmosphere to convince Charles Taylor that military victory on his part is impossible. Responding to questions, Dr. Abass Bundu pointed out that ECOMOG is making progress severing supply lines, and effectively creating a buffer zone.

Asked what will become of the warring factions if peace has been achieved, the executive secretary said that they will be disarmed since peace without disarmament is unrealistic.

Civil Defense Committee Formed To Assist Army

AB1912220392 Freetown SLBS Radio in English 0700 GMT 19 Dec 92

[Excerpt] An Eastern Region civil defense committee has been formed aimed at mobilizing well meaning Sierra Leoneans to fight alongside the Army. The committee consists of representatives of Kenema, Kailahun, and Kono Districts, with some from Freetown.

Advising members of the press yesterday at the Department of Information, Broadcasting, and Culture, the chairman of the committee, Dr. R. Lavalee, said the rebel war was neither a tribal nor a regional affair. It was a national one. Dr. Lavalee said the defense force, which he described as a people's militia, will be a supplementary force for the fighting soldiers. He said the local people's understanding of their terrain will be used to trap the rebels.

Dr. Lavalee said his committee needs the total support of every Sierra Leonean, be it financial, moral, or otherwise to successfully achieve their aims. He told newsmen that they too should visit the war front to gain firsthand experience and stressed that the press has a vital role to play in the verbal war, adding that propaganda is one of the keys to military success. Civil defense chairmen condemned Foday Sankoh for his atrocities to the nation. [passage omitted]

Special Military Tribunal Created

AB2012172392 Paris AFP in French 1818 GMT 18 Dec 92

[Excerpt] Freetown, 18 Dec (AFP)—The Sierra Leonean head of state, Captain Valentine Strasser, has decided to set up a "special military tribunal" that will be knowledgeable in "treason, assassination, murder, armed robbery, arson, and sabotage cases."

Any person, civilian or military, found guilty of such crimes will appear before this new group. According to a decree published by the Supreme Council of State, [CSC, presidency organ] today in Freetown, this tribunal will be presided over by a commissioned officer with a grade equal or superior to that of a lieutenant colonel and will be comprised of at least four officers from the army or the police and assisted by a magistrate with the role of a legal advisor.

Verdicts by the special military tribunal cannot be appealed and can result in death by firing squad. However, the sentences will be executed only after approval by "a confirming authority," CSC members.

The decree stipulates that the tribunal was created "in the interest of maintaining peace, security, and public order" and to "ensure that offenders are rapidly punished." [passage omitted]

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